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A REVIEW (QUARTERLY).

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
LÉOPOLD DELISLE (<i>Portrait</i>)	1
ON CERTAIN QUOTATIONS IN WALTON'S 'ANGLER'; by AUSTIN DORSON	4
COLLECTORS OF BROADSIDES; by W. Y. FLETCHER	12
HOW THINGS ARE DONE IN ONE AMERICAN LIBRARY. Part V; by FREDERICK M. CRUNDEN	20
SOME OLD INITIAL LETTERS; by OSCAR JENNINGS	44
THE 'GUTENBERG' BIBLE; by ROBERT PROCTOR	60
THE JUVENILE LIBRARY; by W. E. A. AXON	67
A MEDITATION ON DIRECTORIES; by ALFRED W. POLLARD	82
REVIEWS	91
NOTES ON BOOKS AND WORK; by ALFRED W. POLLARD	100
STEPHEN VALLINGER; by H. R. PLUMER	108

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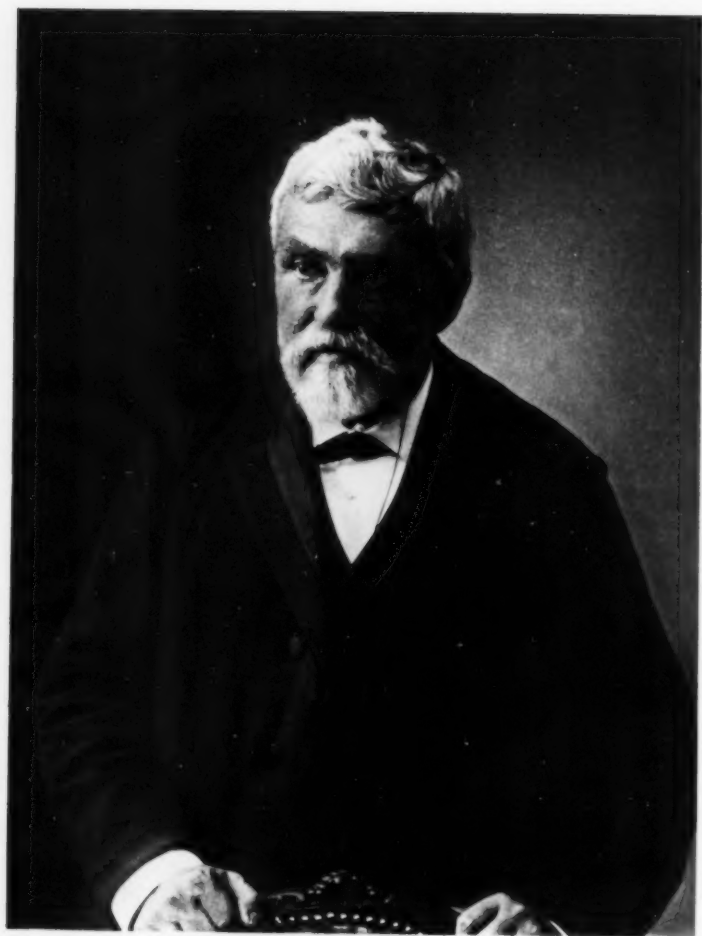
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LÉOPOLD DELISLE.



MONSIEUR LÉOPOLD DELISLE has long been the *doyen*, the Father of the House, of librarians, and during the quarter of a century that he has held the high office of Administrateur général of the Bibliothèque Nationale of France, he has won the warm respect and admiration of many scholars from many lands. Born in 1826 at Valognes in the department of La Manche, M. Delisle entered the Ecole des Chartes in 1847. Shortly after this he obtained a prize for an essay On the condition of agriculture in Normandy during the Middle Ages offered by the Société des lettres, sciences et arts du département de l'Eure, one of the many provincial societies which help to make an interest in the antiquities of their country so common among Frenchmen, whereas our English custom of centralizing all such work in a few great cities acts in just the opposite way. M. Delisle's essay was not printed until 1851, when it was rewarded by two other prizes, and doubtless smoothed his path to the post in the Department of Manuscripts at the Bibliothèque Nationale, which he obtained in 1852. During the next few years M. Delisle produced many important works, notably his 'Catalogue des actes de Philippe Auguste' (1856), 'Mémoire sur les actes d'Innocent III.' (1857), and 'Rouleaux des morts du neuvième au quinzième siècle,' published in 1866. In this same year

the publication was begun of a 'Histoire générale de Paris,' and to this between the years 1868 and 1881 M. Delisle contributed a description of the Cabinet des manuscrits at the Bibliothèque Nationale in three large volumes. The sub-title to this great work truly describes it as comprising the elements of a history of calligraphy, of illumination, of binding, and of the book-trade at Paris down to the invention of printing. It is this determination to make every document which passes under his review yield up its full history which is the note of all M. Delisle's work, and gives so much human interest to his monographs. In 1880 he collected some of his shorter writings under the title 'Mélanges de paléographie et de bibliographie,' and it is time that another collection was now brought together, for in the past twenty years over a hundred 'notices,' 'notes,' 'mémoires' and 'critiques' have proceeded from his pen, and there are few of these in which there is not something worthy of permanent preservation. While M. Delisle's main work has naturally been concerned with manuscripts, he has conferred many obligations upon students of early printed books and the history of printing, notably by his inventory of the vellum-books at the Bibliothèque Nationale, and in the eyes of English readers, by that capital example of his method, his address as President of the Library Association on the books of Sir Kenelm Digby. As a librarian he has had the pleasure of initiating the printed catalogue of the Bibliothèque Nationale, contributing to its first volume a most interesting introduction on the various attempts at catalogues by which it had been preceded, and on the relation of the Bibliothèque Nationale to other libraries.

An indefatigable worker himself, M. Delisle has long been distinguished for his generous alacrity in recognizing the merits of the work of others. *Laudari a laudato viro* has ever been one of the highest pleasures a young student can gain, and few men of M. Delisle's eminence have been so quick to bestow this encouragement, more especially

upon any foreign workers whose tastes have led them to write on subjects concerned with France. A kindly message or an appreciative notice in the 'Journal des Savants' has been the constant reward of such efforts, and the foreign student arriving in Paris, anxious to make the best use of a few days' holiday, finds that an introduction to M. Delisle opens to him not only the stores of the Bibliothèque Nationale, but those of all the other Paris libraries as well. Such courtesies from a man struggling to pursue his own studies amid the pressure of official business are not lightly forgotten, and they add warmth to the intellectual esteem in which all who have the knowledge requisite to appreciate his work hold the venerable chief of the great French library.

ON CERTAIN QUOTATIONS IN WALTON'S 'ANGLER.'

THE *Compleat Angler*, says that accomplished fisherman and poet, the late Thomas Westwood,¹ 'is essentially a book to be loved, and to be discoursed of lovingly.' Speech censorious or pedantic of Izaak Walton would be as ungrateful as to speak pedantically or censoriously of that other revered author, Charles Lamb, under whose roof Mr. Westwood, as a small boy, first made acquaintance with what he terms 'England's one perfect Pastoral.' It was a battered copy of Hawkins's issue of 1760, picked up among the rubbish of a marine store, and concerning which, shaded by an ancient apple-tree in the 'little over-grown orchard' at Enfield, St. Charles would hold forth to his young friend. Though no fisherman, Lamb, as we know, loved the *Angler*. 'It would sweeten a man's temper at any time to read it,' he wrote to Coleridge; and Westwood tells us that the Enfield sitting-room was decorated by copies of Audinet's plates after Samuel Wale's designs to the book, which Emma Isola (Procter's 'Isola Bella whom the poets love') had executed for the delectation of her adopted father. Where are those precious relics now, and what would they fetch at Christie's!

But though it is pleasant to connect Lamb and the

¹ It seems but yesterday (1888) that Thomas Westwood died, and (since he has no niche in the *Dictionary of National Biography*) entered into 'the portion of weeds and outworn faces.' But the author of *The Quest of the Sancgreall* deserves to be remembered (with Hawker of Morwenstow) by all good Arthurians, as the author of *The Chronicle of the 'Compleat Angler'* deserves to be remembered by all good fishermen.

QUOTATIONS IN WALTON'S 'ANGLER.' 5

author of the *Compleat Angler*, our present concern is with Walton alone, and more especially with the unconventional method of quotation which he not infrequently adopts. An immediate example will be better than an exordium. In his opening chapter, he professes to reproduce a passage from Montaigne; and in his first edition of 1653, he gives its source in the margin of the page:—'The Lord Mountaigne in his Apol[ogie] for Ra[ymond] Sebond.' Here is the passage, as he finally revised and re-adjusted it at pp. 5-6 of his fifth impression of 1676. 'When my Cat and I entertain each other with mutual apish tricks (*as playing with a garter*) who knows but that I make my Cat more sport than she makes me? shall I conclude her to be simple, that has her time to begin or refuse to play as freely as I myself have? Nay, who knowes but that it is a defect of my not understanding her language (for doubtless Cats talk and reason with one another) that we agree no better: and who knows but that she pitties me for being no wiser, than to play with her, and laughs and censures my follie, for making sport for her, when we too play together?' 'Thus freely speaks *Mountaigne* concerning Cats,'—says honest Izaak, concluding his quotation; but the freedom is not Montaigne's. For when we turn to the original French (Didot's ed. 1859, p. 226), what we find is this:—'Quand ie me joue à ma chatte, qui sçait si elle passe son temps de moy, plus que ie ne fois d'elle? nous nous entretenons de singeries reciproques: si i'ay mon heure de commencer ou de refuser, aussi a elle la sienne.' In Florio's version of 1603, this is thus rendered, 'When I am playing with my Cat, who knowes whether she have more sport in dallying with me, than I have in gaming with her? We entertaine one another with mutuall apish trickes, If I have my houre to begin or to refuse, so hath she hers.' Now where did Walton get his version? Obviously, he had seen Florio, witness the 'entertain each other with mutual apish tricks.' But there is no garter, either in the original, or in 'Resolute John.' Unless, therefore, we are to

suppose that Walton, like Lord St. Alban, garbled his quotations, we are reduced to the conclusion that he must have written from memory and expanded unconsciously. Yet he prints the passage in inverted commas, as if it were textual.¹

Bacon not only garbled his quotations; but he, too, misrepresented Montaigne. 'Mountaigny saith prettily,' he writes in his Essay 'Of Truth,' whereas Montaigne expressly tells us that he is quoting '*un ancien*,'—as a matter of fact, Plutarch. Bacon's biographer, Dr. Rawley, extenuates these obliquities, like the loyal biographer he was. 'If he [Bacon] had occasion to repeat another man's words after him, he had an use and faculty to dress them in better vestments and apparel than they had before: so that the author should find his own speech much amended and yet the substance of it still retained.' This may be the defence of our next citation from the *Compleat Angler*. At the end of an Address 'to the Honest and Judicious Reader' in Francis Hickes's *Select Dialogues of Lucian*, Oxford, 1634, 4to, is an epigram in Greek and English signed 'T. H.,' i.e., Thomas Hickes, the translator's son and publisher. The English runs as follows, and is headed, 'LUCIAN upon his booke':

Lucian well skill'd in old toyes this hath writ:
For all's but folly that men thinke is wit:
No settled judgement doth in men appeare;
But thou admirest that which others jeere.

In Walton's first chapter, just after the Montaigne quotation in the first edition, but preceding it in the fifth, he prints an epigram which he says is to be found 'fix'd before the Dialogues of *Lucian*.' 'I have taken a little

¹ This passage in Montaigne seems also to have found its way into the vast drag-net of Butler:

'For't has been held by many, that
As *Montaigne*, playing with his Cat,
Complains she thought him but an Ass,
Much more she would Sir *Hudibras*, etc.
Hudibras, Part I., canto i., ll. 37-40.

pleasant pains [he continues] to make such a conversion of it as may make it the fitter for all of that Fraternity'¹ (*i.e.*, of Scoffers):

Lucian well skill'd in *scoffing*, this hath writ
Friend, that's your folly which you think your wit:
This you vent oft, void both of *wit* and *fear*,
Meaning an other, when yourself you jeer.

That is to say, he has given it an entirely different turn. 'ALFANA vient d'equus, sans doute,' but of a surety, 'il a bien changé sur la route.' It may well be, however, that Walton's views of the sanctity of his text were less stringent than ours. A few pages further on he quotes from Herbert's *Temple*. Out of the long poem entitled *Providence* he takes verses 36, 8 and 7, and prints them in that order to make a 'sweet conclusion' to his discourse, altering a word at the beginning for the sake of symmetry. This is not much, for, in another place, in Chapter XVI., where he cannot remember, he improvises. In Piscator's song, 'Oh the gallant Fisher's life,' which, in the fifth edition, is attributed to Chalkhill, he makes the singer say that, 'having forgotten a part of it, I was forced to patch it up by the help of mine own Invention, who am not excellent at Poetrie, as my part of the song may testify.' He was more excellent than he knew, witness his 'composure' in Chapter V. of *The Angler's Wish*, with its pretty reference to his second wife and his dog Bryan.

Let us turn now to Walton's treatment of Bacon, to whose *Naturall History* and *History of Life and Death* he makes several references. He says twice that Sir Francis Bacon (as he uniformly calls him) puts the age of a Salmon at not above ten years. Bacon, in his *History of Life and Death* (Rawley's version), 1650, p. 11, s. 46, certainly says this of the 'Carp, Breame, Tench, Eele, and the like,' but not of the Salmon. In his other references to the *History of Life and Death*, however, Walton is practically accurate. But in a passage professing to come

¹ This admission is omitted in the fifth edition of 1676.

from the *Natural History*, it is again necessary to cross-question his quotation. Speaking of water in Chapter V. he says that 'Sir Francis Bacon, in the eighth Century of his *Natural History*,' 'there proves that waters may be the medium of sounds, by demonstrating it thus: "That if you knock two stones together very deep under the water, those that stand on a bank near to that place may hear the noise without any diminution of it by the water." He also offers the like experiment concerning the letting an anchor fall, by a very long cable or rope, on a rock, or the sand, within the sea.' The raw material of this is undoubtedly to be found in Bacon's eighth Century, Ex. 792 (which Walton gives in the margin); but to represent the statement so specifically cited, there is nothing save—'If you dash a *Stone* against a *Stone* in the Bottome of the Water, it maketh a *Sound*.' Perhaps this informality of repetition is part of that relaxed 'picture of his disposition,'—to which he refers in his Address to the Reader,—'in such days and times as I have laid aside business, and gone a-fishing.'

There is, of course, another, and a not unreasonable solution of these things, namely, that he may have obtained his information by word of mouth from friends who did not, and perhaps did not pretend to, speak with absolute accuracy. In his first chapter he says distinctly that Piscator's 'philosophical discourse' is most of it derived from a recent conference with his friend, the famous anatomist and Gresham professor, Dr. Thomas Wharton; and in a subsequent chapter (the nineteenth) where he gives an account of a 'strange fish,' he introduces what he has to tell by admitting that he has 'been beholding' to his learned friend 'for many of the choicest observations that he has imparted' to his scholar. It is to be observed, too, in this instance, that though he apparently received his data orally, he prints the passage in italics, like a textual quotation. This system of instruction by conference would explain many things which otherwise are

difficult to understand, as, for example, the reference in Chapter I. to the *Voyages* of Mendez Pinto, with their mention of 'a king and several priests a-fishing.' Those who take the trouble to look up Chapter LXXIX. of Henry Cogan's folio version of 1653, to which Walton's editors direct him, will discover with surprise that the only discernible passage on the subject is a detailed account of the baiting by the King of Bungo of a huge *Whale* which he has 'cooped up in a channel,' and that of clerical Brothers of the Angle there is never a word. It is clear that Walton could never have seen his authority, if Major's reference be correct. When he has seen his authority, he is usually precise enough. For example, he had evidently consulted the *Travels* of George Sandys, the translator of Ovid, for though he professes to quote from memory, he quotes accurately. He was also experimentally familiar with that curious old book, Dr. George Hakewill's *Apologie or Declaration of the Power and Providence of God in the Government of the World*, Printed for Robert Allott, at the Beare in Paules Churchyard, 1630. From Hakewill, who was Archdeacon of Surrey, and to whom Boswell gives the credit of helping to form the style of Johnson, Walton probably got his information as to Macrobius and Varro, the Roman aviaries, the Roman fish-ponds, the serving-in of fish with music, the account from Seneca of the dying mullet, and the story of the lamprey that was mourned by Hortensius the orator, —although, in this last case, Walton, while citing Hakewill as his authority, adds, after his fashion, a detail which Hakewill does not give, inasmuch as he says that Hortensius had kept the lamprey long. Another work to which Walton seems to have had actual access is the Rev. Edward Topsell's folio *Historie of Fowre-footed Beasts*, 1607. From Topsell he takes much of his description of the Otter at the beginning of his second chapter, and his easy method of borrowing has apparently been the means of burdening the language with a needless word. Topsell

writes (p. 574) of a 'kind of *Assa* called Benioyn,' the smell of which drives away the otter. The fragrant resin or gum intended is obviously that obtained from the *Styrax benzoin* of Sumatra and Java, popularly known as 'benjamin.' But under Walton's transforming pen it becomes the 'herb [?] *Benione*,' and Benione, as an obsolete form of benzoin, forthwith takes its place in the New English Dictionary, with the sentence from the *Compleat Angler* for its *pièce justificative*.

One more illustration of the Waltonian method. In the fifth chapter of his fifth edition, p. 110, he represents the 'devout Lessius' as saying—'That poor men, and those that fast often, have much more pleasure in eating than rich men and gluttons, that always feed before their stomachs are empty of their last meat, and call for more: for by that means they rob themselves of that pleasure that hunger brings to poor men.' The Lessius referred to is Leonard Lessius, sometime Professor of Divinity and Philosophy at the Jesuits' College of Louvain, whose *Hygiasticon, seu vera Ratio Valetudinis bonæ et Vitæ* was published at Antwerp in 1613, a second edition following in 1614. In 1634 it was translated into English by Timothy Smith, with the sub-title, *The right course of preserving Life and Health unto extream old Age*; and to Smith's version, as to the tract of Lessius, was added a rendering of Lewis Cornaro's *Treatise of Temperance*. Lessius had made his own translation into Latin from Cornaro's Italian; Smith's English version was by George Herbert. It is probable that, as Walton's editors suppose, this tiny 12mo, issued from Cambridge in the same year as the *Select Dialogues of Lucian* was issued at Oxford, must have been known to Walton. As far as we can ascertain, however, neither in Lessius nor Cornaro is there any passage corresponding to the above, although it may fairly be described as an inference from the teaching of both. And it is in italic type, just like Wharton's description, already mentioned, of the 'strange fish.'

It would no doubt be easy to give farther specimens of

Walton's treatment of Sylvester's Du Bartas, of Peter Heylin, of Dubravius, Méric Casaubon, Cardanus, Paulus Jovius, and the rest of those worthies whose 'highly respectable names' add weight to his pages. But *parva seges satis est*: what has been noted will suffice. The scantlings of learning with which he sought to dignify his book are no essential part of it; and this desultory inquiry has certainly not been undertaken in the spirit or the interest of those 'severe, sowre complexion'd' personages whom Walton, in his Address to the Reader, disallows to be competent judges of his labours. What we want most, nevertheless, from this delightful author, is himself, not the 'scattered sapience' derived at second hand and superficially from Dr. Wharton of Gresham College, or Dr. Sheldon of All Souls, but the 'right,' neat, and unsophisticated Walton who 'babbles of green fields,' gossips of the haycocks and the soft May-rain, or copies down the ditty that *Maudlin* the milkmaid 'sung last night, when young *Corydon* the Shepherd plaid so purely on his *oaten pipe* to her and her cozen Betty.' It is this Walton we must have,—the Walton of the cheerful spirit and the clean morality,—of the frank old words that smell of the soil and the fresh-turned furrows. Rondeletius and Salvian and Aldrovandus and Gasper Peucerus no doubt served to astonish and impress 'honest Nat. and R. Roe' while they waited in the parlour of the Thatched House at Hoddesdon, or the George at Ware, for the twenty-two inch trout whose belly, when taken, was 'part of it as yellow as a Marigold, and part of it as white as a lilly.' But we—we prefer to sit with Father Izaak outside in the sweetbriar Arbour, discussing a bottle of the '*Sack, Milk, Oranges and Sugar*, which all put together, make a drink like *Nectar*'; and to hear him repeat (probably with variations of his own) some sample of choicely good Verses made by that excellent Poet and Lover of *Angling*, Sir Henry Wotton, once Provost of Eton College, and 'now with God.'

AUSTIN DOBSON.

COLLECTORS OF BROADSIDES.



THE collector of broadsides is one of the most useful and deserving of his kind. The illuminated manuscript appeals to us by its beauty, and the rare printed volume by its interest and value; but the proclamation, the news-sheet, the ballad, and the penny garland, most frequently roughly printed on common paper, offer but little inducement for their preservation. Nevertheless, several collectors, foreseeing the future usefulness of these ephemeral productions, have purchased them day by day as they have appeared, and formed collections of them which have proved of great service to the antiquary and the historian. In some instances, too, they have noted on each broadside the date of its publication, and the sum which they paid for it.

One of the earliest of these collectors was Robert Burton, the author of 'The Anatomy of Melancholy,' who seems to have purchased indiscriminately almost everything that was published. The nature of his collection is well described in his address to the reader of his great work: 'I hear new news every day, and those ordinary rumours of war, plagues, fires, inundations, thefts, murders, massacres, meteors, comets, spectrums, prodigies, apparitions, of towns taken, cities besieged in France, Germany, Turkey, Persia, Poland, etc., daily musters and preparations, and such like, which these tempestuous times afford, battles fought, so many men slain, monomachies, shipwrecks, piracies, and sea-fights; peace, leagues, stratagems, and fresh alarms. A vast confusion of vows, wishes, actions, edicts, petitions, law suits, pleas, laws, proclamations, complaints, grievances, are daily brought to our ears.

New books every day, pamphlets, currantoes, stories, whole catalogues of volumes of all sorts, new paradoxes, opinions, schisms, heresies, controversies in philosophy, religion, etc. Now come tidings of weddings, maskings, mummeries, entertainments, jubilees, embassies, tilts and tournaments, trophies, triumphs, revels, sports, plays : then again, as in a new shifted scene, treasons, cheating tricks, robberies, enormous villanies in all kinds, funerals, burials, deaths of princes, new discoveries, expeditions, now comical, then tragical matters.' Burton bequeathed to the Bodleian Library and to the library of his own college, Christ Church, whatever books they required which were in his own collection. A great part of his bequest to the Bodleian Library consisted of the very works which the founder of the library disapproved of, viz., 'almanacs, plays, and an infinite number that are daily printed.' These, in consequence, were not to be found on its shelves, and Burton's ephemeral publications were therefore a valuable addition to the library, and now form some of the rarest and most curious of its treasures.¹ John Selden, the distinguished legal antiquary, historian, and Oriental scholar, was a collector of broadside ballads, which after his death were acquired by Pepys.

The wonderful collection of Civil War Tracts formed by George Thomason, who strove with 'unparalleled labour, charge and pains' to acquire every printed piece issued between the middle of 1640 and the middle of 1661, contains a very large number of broadsides, the first of which was printed in February, 1640, and the last in May, 1661, and they comprise nearly every single-sheet issued in England during that period. They are bound in twenty-five volumes. Thomason's collection, which, after many vicissitudes, was bought in 1761 by King George III. for the sum of £300, and presented by him in the following year to the British Museum, comprises upwards

¹ Macray, 'Annals of the Bodleian Library,' p. 66.

of 22,800 separate pieces, 73 of them being in manuscript, bound in about 1,983 volumes.¹ All the tracts are arranged in chronological order, and from July, 1642, to the end of the collection, Thomason has placed the date of issue on every piece when it is not printed on it, and has also endeavoured to supply the place of printing when not given.

Anthony à Wood was a collector of ballads, and in the Bodleian Library are five volumes of them which once belonged to him. Among them is 'A lamentable Ballad of a Combate lately performed near London, betwixt Sir James Steward and Sir George Wharton Knights, who were both slaine at that time. The tune is Downe Plumptre Parke.' This duel took place on the 8th of November, 1609, when Sir James Stuart and Sir George Wharton, who were intimate friends, but had quarrelled on some little punctilio of honour, fell by each other's hand. Charles Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who is said to have composed the celebrated song beginning 'To all ye ladies now on land,' possessed a very large collection of old ballads, 'which,' says Hearne, the antiquary, 'he used oftentimes to read with very great delight, much admiring the simplicity and nakedness of the style; and yet he was a man of admirable sense and understanding. I heard the late dean of Christ Church, Dr. Aldrich, say, the last time I was with him, that he would give a good sum of money for a collection of such ballads, whenever he could meet with one.' Dryden and Congreve also collected ballads and penny story-books. Among the most interesting collections in the library of Samuel Pepys, preserved in Magdalene College, Cambridge, is one consisting of eighteen hundred English ballads, bound in five folio volumes. This, Pepys tells us, was begun by John Selden, and continued by himself, for in the first volume he has written 'My collection of ballads, begun by Mr Selden, improv'd by the addition

¹ Madan, 'Bibliographica,' vol. iii., p. 304.

of many pieces elder thereto in time; and the whole continued to the year 1700.' The collection is arranged under the following heads: 1. Devotion and Morality; 2. History, true and fabulous; 3. Tragedy, viz. murders, executions, judgments of God; 4. State and Times; 5. Love, pleasant; 6. Love, unfortunate; 7. Marriage, cuckoldry; 8. Sea: love, gallantry, and actions; 9. Drinking and good fellowship; 10. Humorous frolics and mirth. Pepys also gathered a number of small penny publications, printed for the most part in black letter, which are bound in four volumes, and lettered: Vol. I. Penny Merriments; Vol. II. Penny Witticisms; Vol. III. Penny Compliments; Vol. IV. Penny Godlinesses.

John Bagford, who formed the extraordinary collection of title-pages and other papers, now preserved in the British Museum, acquired a large number of ballads and other broadsides. Hearne, who himself collected ballads and garlands, informs us that 'when Bagford went abroad he was never idle, but if he could not meet with Things of a better Character, he would divert himself with looking over Ballads, and he was always mightily pleased if he met with any that were old. Anthony à Wood made good Collections, with respect to Ballads, but he was far outdone by Mr. Bagford.' 'Our modern Ballads,' Hearne adds, 'are, for the most part, Romantick, but the old ones contain Matters of Fact, and were generally written by good Scholars. In these old ones were couched the Transactions of our great Heroes; they were a sort of Chronicles. So that the wise Founder of New College permitted them to be sung by the Fellows and Scholars of that College upon extraordinary days. In those Times, the Poets thought they had done their Duty when they had observed Truth, and put the Accounts they undertook to write, into Rhythm, without extravagantly indulging their Fancies. Nobody knew this better than Mr. Bagford; for which reason he always seemed almost ravished when he happened to light upon any old Rhythms, though

they might not, perhaps, be so properly ranged under the Title of Ballads.' In addition to the ballads, which are bound in three volumes, Bagford collected a large number of other broadsides, consisting of proclamations, early almanacs, curious advertisements of tobacco, tea, quack medicines, etc. The ballads have been edited by the Rev. Joseph Woodfall Ebsworth for the Ballad Society.

Narcissus Luttrell, who was born in 1657, formed an extensive library at Shaftesbury House, Little Chelsea, where he resided for many years in seclusion, which Hearne informs us was 'a very extraordinary collection.' A special feature of it was the large and interesting collection of broadsides and other fugitive pieces issued during the reigns of Charles II., James II., William III., and Anne, which Luttrell purchased day by day as they appeared. The broadsides consisted of ballads, elegies, political squibs, accounts of murders, storms, various sieges in Ireland in 1695-96, etc. Sir Walter Scott found this collection, which in his time was chiefly in the possession of the collectors, Mr. Heber and Mr. Bindley, very useful when editing the 'Works of Dryden,' published in eighteen volumes at London in 1808. In the preface he remarks that 'the industrious collector seems to have bought every poetical tract, of whatever merit, which was hawked through the streets in his time, marking carefully the price and date of purchase. His collection contains the earliest editions of many of our most excellent poems, bound up, according to the order of time, with the lowest trash of Grub St.' On Luttrell's death, in 1732, the collection became the property of Francis Luttrell (presumed to be his son), who died in 1740. It afterwards passed into the possession of Mr. Serjeant Wynne, and from him descended to the Rev. Luttrell Wynne, of All Souls' College, Oxford, by whose direction the library, which had been considerably enlarged by its later possessors, was sold by auction by Messrs. Leigh and Sotheby in 1786. Various portions of the Luttrell collections were bought by Messrs. Heber and Bindley. The greater part

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COLLECTORS OF BROADSIDES.

17

of those purchased by Mr. Bindley were eventually acquired by the British Museum at the Duke of Buckingham's sale in 1849, while those which belonged to Mr. Heber are now to be found on the shelves of the library at Britwell Court, Bucks. Dibdin informs us that 'a great number of poetical tracts was disposed of, previous to the sale, to Dr. Farmer, who gave not more than forty guineas for them.' The Luttrell broadsides in the British Museum are five hundred and eighty-six in number, and are bound in three large folio volumes. The first volume consists of 'Eulogies and Elegies'; the second of 'Humorous, Political, Historical, and Miscellaneous Ballads'; and the third of 'Proclamations, etc.' Luttrell is known as the compiler of a chronicle of contemporary events, which was frequently quoted by Lord Macaulay in his 'History of England'; and of a personal diary in English, but whimsically written in Greek characters, consisting principally of entries recording the hours of his rising and going to bed, the manner in which he spent his time, what friends called to see him, the sermons he heard, where and how he dined, and the occasions, which were not infrequent, when he took too much wine. This manuscript is preserved in the British Museum.

Dr. Richard Rawlinson, the great book-collector, who was born in 1690, and died in 1755, possessed a magnificent and nearly complete series of the original broadside proclamations issued during the reign of Elizabeth, and also a volume of single-sheet ballads, both of which he bequeathed to the Bodleian Library.

The famous collection of old broadside ballads in the British Museum, known as the 'Roxburghe Ballads,' which is perhaps the most extensive and interesting ever formed, was chiefly collected by Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford. It passed successively into the possession of Mr. James West and Major Thomas Pearson, and at the sale of the library of the last-named collector in 1788 it was acquired by the Duke of Roxburghe for £36 4s. 6d. Pearson, with

the help of Isaac Reed, had made valuable additions to the collection, and it was further enlarged by the Duke when he became its possessor. At the sale of the Duke's library in 1812 it was purchased by Mr. Joseph Harding for £477 15s. From Mr. Harding's hands it passed into those of Messrs. Longman of Paternoster Row, from whom it was bought by Mr. B. H. Bright, and at the dispersion of his books in 1845 it was secured by the British Museum for the sum of £535. The collection consists of two thousand and forty-eight broadsides, and is bound in three volumes, with the arms of the Duke of Roxburghe stamped on the covers. The ballads have a great range of subjects, and several of them are quoted by Shakespeare. In addition to those printed in England, there are some early Scotch ones from the press of Robert Lekpreuik of Edinburgh. They have been excellently edited for the Ballad Society by Mr. William Chappell, F.S.A., and the Rev. Joseph Woodfall Ebsworth, F.S.A. The enormous library of Mr. Richard Heber contained a large number of poetical broadsides; and one of the principal treasures of Mr. George Daniel's fine collection of books, which was sold in 1864 for £15,865 12s., was a series of Elizabethan black-letter ballads, which he is said to have purchased for £50 from Mr. William Stevenson Fitch, Postmaster at Ipswich, who is believed to have acquired them from the housekeeper at Helmingham Hall, Suffolk, the residence of the Tollemache family. Of these ballads, seventy-nine were sold to Mr. Heber by Mr. Daniel for £70, and the remaining seventy were bought at the sale of his library for £750 by Mr. Huth, who had them printed for presentation to the members of the Philobiblon Society.

The Society of Antiquaries possesses a very extensive and valuable collection of broadsides, consisting of early indulgences, proclamations, ballads, and historical pieces, ranging from the year 1486 to the present century. The proclamations form one of the most valuable sets in existence. Some of them are believed to have been collected

by Humphrey Dyson, the collector, who was co-editor with Anthony Munday of Stow's 'Survey of London,' published in 1633. Other proclamations which belonged to him are in the British Museum.

Among the ballads are several remarkable ones relating to a controversy respecting the character of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, most of which are probably unique. There are also others forming a contention in verse between Thomas Churchyard, the poet, and a writer who signed himself Thomas Camell. Other ballads of great interest are an epitaph on the death of King Edward VI., two ballads on the accession of Mary I., one on her marriage, and an epitaph on her death, a duet between England and Queen Elizabeth, a 'Doleful Ditty' on the murder of Lord Darnley, and a funeral elegy on the death of James I. An excellent catalogue of the collection was compiled by Mr. Robert Lemon, F.S.A., in 1866.

Large collections of rare broadsides are to be found in several of the great libraries of the present day, notably those of Mr. Huth and the late Mr. Christie-Miller of Britwell Court, the latter of whom acquired the greater part of the Heber broadsides; but those preserved in the library of Lord Crawford at Haigh Hall, Wigan, are specially distinguished for their size and importance. Splendid collections of broadside ballads, broadside proclamations illustrative of English, French, Dutch, German, and Italian history, and a long series of Papal bulls are to be found in this noble library. Some idea of their extent may be formed from a statement made by Lord Crawford at a meeting of the Bibliographical Society on January 17th, 1898, when he mentioned that in the last fourteen or fifteen years he had managed to collect something like nineteen thousand broadsides, including three thousand English, French, German, and Venetian proclamations, eleven thousand Papal bulls, and three thousand English ballads.

W. Y. FLETCHER.

HOW THINGS ARE DONE IN ONE AMERICAN LIBRARY.

V.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

THIS is one of the most important departments of the institution. Juvenile card-holders constitute 46 per cent. of the whole registration, and they draw 28 per cent. of the whole number of volumes circulated. The juvenile collection numbers 12,000 volumes, and occupies a room 36 ft. by 19 ft., besides two sections of the adjoining stack. The books are on open shelves; and the children readily learn to select for themselves. The assistant in charge, however, is an experienced teacher, who has taken pains to acquaint herself with the collection, and is always ready and glad to give help and guidance to children, and also to parents and teachers. From time to time she visits the public schools, in order to keep in touch with the teachers and encourage them to make use of the library. As mentioned under another head, she supplies them with reading lists adapted to their respective grades and bearing on the topics their pupils are studying. The posters that have become such a feature of children's rooms are to be seen at all seasons of the year.

Entrance to the room is by one turnstile and exit by another, requiring everyone to pass right by the issue desk. We hope the turnstiles will lessen the heavy losses of previous years from this department.

REFERENCE AND ART ROOM.

Our reference room, 55 ft. by 34 ft., contains 14,000 volumes on open shelves. I have explained that no registration or other formality is necessary to the use of this room. It has communication by bell and tube with the desks of the Librarian and Assistant Librarian, and by a large window slide with the catalogue room. Books from the latter room and from the circulation department are taken to the reference room on call from the attendant there. Serviceable aids to reference work are a collection of portraits (about 3,000) mounted on Manila sheets and arranged alphabetically. These are issued occasionally to the newspapers and to the schools. There is also a card index to portraits in books throughout the library.

In the art room adjoining are shelved, in locked cases, the large works on art and other illustrated and costly volumes. Here also are kept in boxes a collection of Perry pictures and other mounted photographs for the use of teachers in the schools, and a card index to the pictures to be found in the art-works.

READING-ROOM.

In a row of cupboards to the left of the desk in the reading-room are stored back numbers of newspapers, and the larger-sized periodicals awaiting completion for binding. On the right of the desk is another cupboard, in which are kept these volumes when completed, until they are sent to the bindery. They are thus at hand and available for consultation all the time except while actually at the bindery. Even there they may be referred to in a matter of great importance. In cases a little further on are placed the recent numbers of newspapers as they are taken off the files—*i.e.*, the great mass of dailies that are not bound. They are kept for six weeks, and may be had on call. We bind only St. Louis dailies. Until recently we bound also the London 'Times' and 'New York Tribune.' At

present we shelve in this room the bound volumes of newspapers; but need of space compels us to remove these and bestow them in the reading-room in low cases, the tops of which will serve as tables for their consultation.

Under the reading-room desk are the quarto periodicals, sewed into temporary binders and kept upright by vertical partitions. They are, of course, arranged alphabetically. Occupying the whole wall space behind the desk are pigeon-hole cases with doors to keep out the dust. These are for the octavo magazines. They are all of the same width—sufficient for the widest octavo—but there is a distinct division, $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. from the floor. Above this the pigeon-holes are 3 in. in height, just enough for two copies of a magazine. In these compartments are kept the current numbers of magazines. The pigeon-holes below are 6 in. high, and in them are kept the back numbers until a volume is sent to the bindery. A stand out in the room contains numerous periodicals that are not much in demand. There is also a file rack on which some twenty weekly papers are placed on hand files.

A card index of all periodicals received is kept in a drawer in the desk. This index is arranged alphabetically by the titles of the periodicals, in four divisions: periodicals paid for, periodicals donated; newspapers paid for, newspapers donated. On each card are written title of the periodical, its periodicity, where obtained, and, if paid for, the price. In a blank book is kept a check list of all periodicals paid for and the more important donations. We receive 580 periodicals and papers, of which 220 are paid for. We bind something over 225.

It will be observed that the bulk of our periodicals (all the popular ones) are kept behind the desk and given out on application, made by filling a slip with name and address of reader and title of periodical wanted. Whether this is better than the plan of keeping the periodicals in racks accessible to all comers I am not prepared to say. It has these obvious advantages:

First, when a periodical is wanted it is instantly available if not in actual use; second, a selfish person cannot monopolize several periodicals at the same time, as is sometimes done, not only in public reading-rooms, but also in clubs; third, it compels the return of every periodical to the possible scrutiny of the attendant after each issue; and if any mutilation is done, the slips show what persons have had the periodical. On the other hand, the writing of a slip is a formality that annoys some persons; and a reading-room is not so home-like (or club-like) and attractive with the periodicals shut in behind a desk. My leanings are all towards freedom; but the open-rack plan was abandoned just before I took charge, after a ten years' trial; and I have not seen sufficient reason for going back to it. Our reading-room superintendent has a very positive conviction, based on her twenty-two years' experience in that position, that our present plan is the better of the two.

Our binders for magazines and periodicals are made by the binder. They are simply book-covers with leather backs and corners and paper sides. In the back of the octavo binders are two pairs of eyelet holes, one at the top and one at the bottom, through which the magazine is fastened by needle and twine. The quarto binders have another pair of eyelets in the middle. These cost but little more than half as much as the patent binders, and our superintendent considers them superior in every way.

Along one side of the reading-room are shelved the Patent Office reports. In front of them are narrow tables (soon to be changed to cases for bound newspapers) for their consultation. A Bible, dictionary, city directory, several atlases and cyclopædias are also kept in the room.

The reading-room attendant makes up the volumes of papers and periodicals for binding, and also keeps four scrap-books. In one is pasted every notice of the library that appears in the St. Louis papers and any other newspaper items that come to our notice. We have a series of these volumes covering the last twenty-three years con-

tinuously, with some periods prior to that time. They form a very interesting history of the library, and are often the most convenient source of information on various questions that come up from time to time. The other scrap-books may be entitled a 'Book of Days' (items relating to Christmas, Thanksgiving, etc.), 'Local History and Biography,' and 'Literary Miscellany.'

DELIVERY STATIONS AND DEPOSITORIES.

We have forty delivery stations located, with three exceptions, in drug stores (chemists' shops), which are particularly suitable places because they are generally situated on prominent corners, are neat and attractive in appearance, and are open during long hours. The proprietors find their compensation for the service in the custom thus drawn to their shops. The books are charged at the library, so that the station agents have nothing to do with the records except to stamp on the borrower's card the date when he returned his book.

At the stations no books are kept, but they are supplied on orders. Twenty of the stations have daily deliveries: to the other twenty books are sent twice a week. At each station, on delivery days, a wagon calls in the morning for orders and books to be returned and in the afternoon delivers the books called for. Besides the stations there are thirty-five depositories, where a permanent stock of books is kept. Nineteen of these are Sunday schools; ten are public schools; and the remaining six include self-culture halls, social settlements, and one factory. In the Sunday schools the collections vary from 25 to 300 volumes; in the other depositories, from 40 to 400.

Readers may secure all the privileges of the circulation department without ever coming to the library. Children may send in their application cards through the schools, and they, as well as adults, may register through the delivery stations. During the year ending April 30, 1900, about 5,000 readers were thus registered.

In addition to the circulation through stations and depositories, the use of the library is extended by a system of travelling libraries in the public schools. We have 228 sets of books, numbering in all 6,840 volumes, which are sent to schools upon the request of their respective principals (head masters). These books, selected in consultation with a committee of principals, are nearly all for the first four (the lowest) grades, which include many more than half of all the pupils in the schools. Each box contains thirty copies of a book adapted to a certain grade, and may be kept from two to four weeks, and longer if not wanted by another school.

The issue through these various agencies for the year just ended was 38 per cent. of the total circulation.

BINDING.

This is a considerable and necessary item of expense in a public library. During our five years as a free institution, the average annual expenditure under this head has been nearly £1,000. Of this £135 (in round numbers) was spent for binding, £750 for rebinding, and £90 for repairing. The last, done in the library by a young woman trained in a bindery, includes various grades, from patching, or pasting in a leaf or two, to re-covering—practically rebinding—a volume. Binding and rebinding are done out of the building by contract.

First binding is charged, properly, to the book account. By far the greater part of this consists of the binding of periodicals. Of ordinary magazines we bind two copies, one for reference, the other for circulation. Of the most popular, 'Harper' and 'Century,' we bind six, one for reference and the rest for circulation. Of the more high-priced and less popular magazines, we bind the one copy we take for the reference room. Circulating volumes are bound in half-morocco, reference volumes in full duck. Newspapers, daily and weekly, are bound in full duck.

The best leather we are able to procure here rots on the shelves in ten years. This is presumably the effect of a combination of steam heat, a natural temperature of over 90° in summer, and an atmosphere laden with sulphur and soot from the general consumption of low-grade bituminous coal. To this was formerly added the deleterious products of illuminating gas of poor quality. We find, however, that morocco binding done in England is perfectly sound after fifteen or twenty years. This disintegration of leather has led to the gradual adoption of duck for all books that are not much handled. Large reference books that are likely to be in frequent use are bound in half red morocco. This colour was chosen because handsome and distinctive, and because skins thus dyed are usually above the average in durability.

Omitting details that must be common to all libraries, the process of sending books to the bindery and checking their return is as follows:

For first binding (periodicals, pamphlets, and books bought in paper covers or sheets) a blank is provided. This is $14\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$ in. At the top, above the double ruling, are the words, in large type,

Binder's Blank.

St. Louis, _____ 1900.

PUBLIC LIBRARY to MESSRS. K. & W. Book acc't. MARK, P. L.

The rest is ruled by vertical lines into columns headed 'Binder's number,' 'Accession number,' 'Author and Title,' 'Volume number,' 'Class number,' 'Cost,' 'Style of binding,' 'Remarks.' Horizontal lines provide for the entry of twenty volumes. A letterpress copy of this blank is taken, and the blank goes with the books to the bindery. Thus, it will be seen, we have a perfect record of each volume sent; and the binder has complete instructions regarding it. The blank serves also as the binder's bill. In case of sets a sample, or a rubber, is of course necessary. The last binder's number shows how many volumes have been

sent to the bindery during the year up to date. A new series is begun each year on May 1st, the beginning of the library year.

When a lot of books is returned, the blanks, now serving as bills, accompany them. First, every entry on the bills is compared with the corresponding book, to see, by reference to the title-page, whether the entries were properly made, and, secondly, to see whether the binder followed instructions. If the entry agrees with the title-page, and if the binding is in every particular according to order, a blue check is placed against the binder's number. If there is anything amiss, the item is checked in red and returned for correction. This is done by a clerk other than the one who filled the blank, so that the work of the first is revised by the second, a plan of general application. No bill is audited till every item in the lot which it covers has been made right. The next thing is to see whether the prices agree with the schedule. For this purpose a rule is used on which are marked the limits of the various sizes and the price of each size in the different styles of binding. Finally the footings are made; and the blanks receive an 'O.K.,' attested by the checking clerk, and are filed. At the end of the month the binder renders a statement in this form :

Book Acc't.

Books, Nos. 706-725	\$13.80
" 726-743	7.55
	<hr/>
	\$21.35

This, being the last statement received before May 1st, indicates that during the year ending April 30, 1900, volumes to the number of 743 received a first binding. This bill is checked by the original blanks, attested, and turned over to the accountant.

New volumes for binding are, naturally, sent from the cataloguing room. Formerly the preparation of books for

rebinding was also done there, and the same blanks were used for this purpose. For the last two years this work has been done in the circulation department and by a different method. Sending the books from the place where more than nine-tenths of them are shelved has this obvious advantage: it saves the trouble of carrying them up and down stairs and concentrates all of the work connected with rebinding and repairing in one spot.

The most important and responsible part of the process is determining what disposition shall be made of each volume: whether it shall be condemned at once or left to circulate a little longer in its present condition; whether it can be repaired in the library; or, if to be sent to the bindery, whether it shall be rebound in same cover, in tight back or loose back, in half-morocco, roan, duck, or linen. This calls for judgment based on knowledge of the wearing qualities of the different kinds of binding, on the sort of usage the book is likely to receive, the amount of wear left in it, and the cost of a new copy. This sorting is done every morning by an experienced assistant: the books to be repaired are turned over to the repairer near at hand; and an apprentice attends to the rest of the work of sending the books to the bindery. The process is very simple and expeditious.

The book-cards are taken from the pockets and arranged alphabetically by author under the date when each batch is sent. These cards show what books are at the bindery and when each volume was sent, just as the cards in the issue, or 'maturity,' tray show what books are in the hands of borrowers and when each is due. In the place of the book-card there is inserted in the pocket of each volume a card in the following form:

IN ONE AMERICAN LIBRARY.

29

AV. 5,600. 1900.

20

BINDING.

Acc. No. _____

Author _____

Title _____

Vol. _____

CLASS.

MARK, P. L.

TIGHT BACK.

LOOSE BACK.

LINEN.

$\frac{1}{2}$ MOR.

SAME COVER.

DUCK.

ROAN.

COST.

These cards are ordered in lots of ten thousand numbered consecutively from one to ten thousand. This 'binder's number' appears in the upper left corner and serves to show how many volumes have been sent up to date. The accession number in the upper right-hand corner is, as always, the final mark of identification of each volume. 'Author,' 'Title,' and 'Volume,' besides helping to identify the book, serve also as instruction to the binder for lettering the back. Before placing the card in the pocket the clerk writes the accession number, author, title, volume, class number, and any additional lettering that may be desired, and crosses out all the styles of binding but the one selected for the given volume. Below he writes the date when the book is sent (4/28, for example); and the volume is ready for the binder's carrier, who calls three times a week.

Books usually remain at the bindery three or four weeks; but when specially wanted they are returned in a week. When a lot of books is brought back, the binder's card of each is taken from the pocket, and the price there marked compared with the schedule. The book-card is taken from the tray and replaced in the pocket; the date when the book was rebound is stamped on the back of the title-page; the date-slip is pasted on the fly-leaf; and the

volume is ready for circulation. The binder's bill is then checked from the cards, 'O.K'd,' and turned over to the accountant.

How expeditiously all this can be done is indicated by the fact that last year one assistant, giving to it an average of two hours a day, did all the work connected with despatching and receiving over 7,000¹ volumes. The directions for lettering are written with the typewriter. Nearly all our writing is done with this machine.

BOOKS WITHDRAWN FROM CIRCULATION.

Naturally, in sorting a lot of books for rebinding, some are found that are not worth rebinding, and are too much worn or soiled for further use. These are listed in a book kept for the purpose. The volumes entered are numbered consecutively, beginning each year with No. 1, so that the last number shows the number of volumes withdrawn up to date. This number occupies the last column. The first column contains the accession number; then comes a narrow column for check marks, indicating that the withdrawal of the book has been noted on the shelf-list card and the accession ledger. Then come author, title, class; and then another column for check marks to indicate that the volume is to be replaced. The book-cards are given to the Assistant Librarian, who, from his knowledge of the demand for each book, supplemented by an examination of the shelves, determines what books need replacement. His recommendations are revised by the Librarian; and the list, as amended, is ordered. At each meeting of the Book Committee the Librarian reports the number of volumes withdrawn and the number replaced. Books 'lost and paid for' are entered in a similar blank book, and the same procedure is followed regarding their replacement. These two books

¹ Much below the average. The previous year nearly 12,000 volumes were rebound.

are among the records that pertain to the biennial inventory, which will be explained later. The volumes withdrawn have a large 'condemned' stamped on the title-page, and are given to the house of refuge, gaol, city hospital, insane asylum, or other institution, where, notwithstanding their soiled or imperfect condition, they are welcomed and prove serviceable.

Another record similar to the 'withdrawn' and 'lost and paid for' books is kept, in which volumes missing from the collection in other ways are accounted for: for example, 'pub. docs.' returned to the United States government, books sold or exchanged, those lost by fire (at a delivery station), and, on one occasion, a considerable number destroyed by a tornado that laid waste one section of the city.

TAKING THE INVENTORY.

It is highly advisable for a library to 'take stock' occasionally, in order to ascertain, in the language of an American Congressman, 'where it is at.' Our custom is to do this every other year. A most extraordinary and most happy announcement at the close of the stock-taking would be the military phrase, 'All present or accounted for.' That is the aim, to find on the shelves or to account for every volume that has ever been in the possession of the library, or at least every volume entered in the accession ledger. Twenty-five years ago I suppose the universal custom in taking an inventory was to call in the books and close the library for such time as was necessary. In this library that was done for the last time in 1877. Since then the library has not been closed a single day for stock-taking. The procedure is as follows:

Our shelf-list is on standard catalogue cards. As heretofore explained, it serves as the classed portion of the official catalogue, showing not only whether we have a given book, but also how many copies we have. On each card, below author and title, are written the accession

numbers of the various copies. In the case of numerous copies of a book more than one card, of course, is necessary. For a while we experimented with sheets for our shelf-list of novels, but came back to cards. On this shelf-list, then, is represented by author, title, and accession number, every volume in the collection—*i.e.*, every volume that has been catalogued—and the game is to find every one of these numbers on the shelves, or to account for its absence. The disappearance of a large number of volumes every year is known to us. They are books condemned, books lost and paid for, duplicates sold or exchanged, or returned to the United States government (which is a form of exchange, for we eventually receive others in return), books charged to borrowers who leave the city or cannot be found, books destroyed by fire or other accident, etc., etc. Of all these we have a record, as previously explained. The object of taking an inventory is to find out what books have disappeared 'unknownst' and without warrant. The known disappearances we note on the shelf-list and also on the entry ledger as they occur. If, then, no other volumes than those were missing, there would be found on the shelves a volume to correspond with every accession number left on the shelf-list. This never happens; there are always a lot of books that take themselves away without giving any notice.

But first, how do we keep the shelf-list posted as to books known to be missing? Let one record, that containing the list of books 'withdrawn,' serve to illustrate. With this record in hand take from the drawer the shelf-list card, stamp opposite the accession number the word 'withdrawn,' and draw a red line through the number. Then stamp 'withdrawn' in the 'remarks' column of the accession ledger, and place a check mark in the 'withdrawn book,' to show that both these things have been done. If the last copy of a book is withdrawn, both shelf-list card and book-card are stamped 'last copy'; and the cards, representing the book, are taken out of the

catalogue and kept till the book is replaced. In the 'withdrawn book' a last copy is marked with a cross beside the check, thus +. Both book-cards and books are stamped 'condemned' before being sent to the cataloguing room; and here the books are again stamped 'condemned' on the title-page, the first stamp being on the date-slip. There is a reason for this double stamping, which, however, it is hardly worth while to explain. The book-cards are also stamped on the back with the date of entry in the 'withdrawn book,' and returned to the issue department, where, as before mentioned, those to be replaced are so marked and returned to the catalogue room, where is located also the order department. In the 'withdrawn book' the volumes replaced are checked. Books 'lost and paid for,' etc., are treated in the same manner. Books charged to borrowers, for the return of which every effort has been vain, are listed at the end of each year, shelf-list cards and accession ledger stamped, cards for last copies withdrawn from catalogue, etc., etc.

Thus, in shelf-list and accession ledger are noted all books known to be missing; and this part of the process of stock-taking goes on throughout the year. At the end of the second year we begin the task of ascertaining what other volumes have disappeared since the previous inventory. Every volume, it will be remembered, has its author, title, and accession number on a card in the shelf-list. These cards are arranged in drawers in exactly the same order as the books on the shelves. The drawer containing 'Classes 1 and 2,' for example, is taken to the section where the books in these classes are shelved. Two assistants work together: one takes the first book in Class 1, calls author, title, and accession number; the other finds the corresponding entry on the shelf-list, and stamps '99' (or whatever the year may be) opposite it, while the first puts the same stamp on the pocket of the book. So they go on through the whole collection. Any number of couples, of course, can work at the same time

in different sections of the library. Naturally, in every class there are some books 'out'—*i.e.*, in the hands of borrowers. In order to 'catch' these, books belonging to classes that have been 'taken' are not shelved till checked. The stamp on the pocket shows whether a volume has been inventoried. After the whole library has thus been gone over, there is sure to be a very large number of books not found: they escape somehow in spite of all precautions. Some of them are found—*i.e.*, the cards representing them are found—in the issue tray; and a continued and persistent search discovers many others. The residue are 'unaccounted for,' and, being chiefly from the open-shelf room, furnish ammunition for the opponents of open shelves.

EXCHANGES AND DONATIONS.

It is universally true that 'nothing comes of nothing.' But a library may obtain a great deal of valuable matter with no expense but stationery, postage, and time. Through its general reputation for good service, a library will draw from members of its community gifts of greater or less value; and wisely-directed effort will secure, either as donations or exchanges, many volumes and pamphlets of immediate or ultimate value. Systematic and intelligent endeavour on the part of the assistant now in charge of this work has resulted in an increase of our donations and exchanges from 1,074 volumes and 1,362 pamphlets in 1894-95 to 3,681 volumes and 6,686 pamphlets in the year just ended. The chief sources of this increment are the publications of governments, national, state and municipal, and those of societies and institutions.

A card list of state documents is kept, which contains a complete record of both bound and unbound publications, last number received, date of last writing for, list of missing numbers, and any information that may have been obtained regarding irregularities of issue or scarcity of

particular numbers. In writing for missing numbers, when the department responsible for its issue is unable to supply them, we try to obtain them from other libraries or from individuals. In each case we record on the reverse of the card, to whom we applied, the date, and the result. Of many state publications we have complete sets and receive them regularly as issued. In such cases we write 'regular' on the card, and ignore this publication when writing for current and missing numbers in the spring and fall. Sometimes a department, lacking certain numbers of its own publications, will request us to send any duplicates of those numbers we may receive. We comply at once when possible, or note on the card for future action.

A similar list is kept for publications of societies and institutions. Where numbers are missing in sets of these, it requires, perhaps, more work to obtain them than in the case of state publications, where the source of supply is apt to be limited to the department and a library or two. For publications of societies, etc., we apply first to the secretary, who, if he cannot send what we need, often suggests a possible source; and that possible source will suggest another, and so on. We follow these leads until we receive the desired numbers or exhaust all resources within our reach for the time being. Necessarily, there can be no regular time for this work, as suggestions must be followed at once; but the entire list is supposed to be gone over once a year.

The greater part of the large mass of pamphlet literature on current topics received by us is obtained through requests to the authors. For these and for all other gifts a prompt acknowledgment is made; and further acknowledgment is made in the annual report, a copy of which is sent to every donor. Every volume and pamphlet received as a gift has pasted in it a neat engraved slip, with the words 'Presented by' and the pen-printed name of the donor.

The record of donations (and exchanges) is kept on

cards under the name of the donor, the address being given on the lower edge of the card. The year is placed in the left-hand column; and just below, on the line with the record of number of volumes and pamphlets, are given the month and day. When the donation is noteworthy, the fact is indicated by a cross in red ink to the left of the name. A monthly report of the number of donations received is made from these cards, a light pencil mark being placed to the left of the record when the count is made. At the end of the fiscal year the annual report is typewritten from the cards, only the name of the donor and number of volumes and pamphlets being given. Then a line in red ink is drawn below the last entry, and the cards are ready for the next year's record. When a card is filled it is left in the tray until another donation from that source is received: then a new card is written and the old one removed.

PAMPHLETS.

Speaking generally, accessions to a library are troublesome in inverse ratio to their importance—or, at least, to their magnitude. A folio once catalogued and safely shelved behind glass is a most comfortable possession. A pamphlet gives more trouble than a small volume; and a leaflet or tract is the most difficult of all things to care for and make available. Their value, however, as the best sources of information on a question of the day may be very great; and their rarity in time to come may make them literally worth their weight in gold. It is one of the functions of a public library to gather the 'unconsidered trifles' of to-day and preserve them for the future. For twenty years past we have secured from week to week the programmes of all the theatres of the city and bound them into volumes at the end of each season. We have done the same with programmes of local clubs and societies. Those sheets which litter the floor after an entertainment

will at least gratify the curious eye of the future antiquary.

Pamphlets fall naturally into two classes: those complete in themselves and those belonging to series, such as bulletins and circulars of the Department of Agriculture, reports and transactions of societies, etc. But for the expense, the most satisfactory disposition of each pamphlet monograph would be to bind and catalogue it as a volume. We do that to some extent with pamphlets of any size relating to a subject of present discussion, *e.g.*, Imperialism, the British-Boer war, the Philippine war, etc. If two or three pamphlets on a given subject come in at the same time, we bind them together if about the same size. Those not immediately bound are sorted by classes and placed in pasteboard boxes, with hinged lid, which are shelved in the reference room, each in its proper class, just as if the box were a bound volume. Every pamphlet is, of course, catalogued, and a list of the pamphlets in each box is pasted on the inside of the cover. Continuations are catalogued and alphabeted and kept in suitable cases. Constant care is taken to bind as soon as a volume is completed or sufficient numbers have accumulated to make a volume of proper proportions. When a volume of miscellaneous pamphlets is bound, a list of the pamphlets is inserted as a fly-leaf.

READING LISTS, GENERAL AND SPECIAL: A SOLUTION FOR A VEXING PROBLEM.

One of the abiding troubles of the conscientious librarian is the demand for 'sloppy' novels—I can think of no better term by which to characterize them. These are chiefly the product of women writers, and in the United States are best represented by Mrs. Mary J. Holmes and Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth. They are not vicious: if they were, we should unhesitatingly exclude them. Their chief characteristics are sensation and sentimentality—and bad

English; and they owe their popularity to an uncultivated taste and extensive advertising. We have a small pamphlet catalogue of a circulating library that flourished in St. Louis in 1842. Of many of the authors therein entered none of us had ever heard. I wonder when the galaxy of author-esses whose names now appear so frequently on our call-slips will be relegated to the limbo of forgotten worthies, and what kind of novels the shop-girls of fifty years hence will be reading.

Various views of this vexed question were held by different members of our staff and by individual members of successive book committees; and various plans were proposed, from the extreme of excluding the tribe altogether to supplying their books *ad libitum*. On the one hand, it was argued that this was the people's library, supported by the people, and that they ought to have the books they wanted; and furthermore, that if they didn't get them they would not come to the library, while if they could be held they would sooner or later get through with the trashy books and take something better. On the other side, this was an educational institution and its revenues ought not to be used for books that had no educational value, that the taste for trash grew by what it fed on, etc., etc. With occasional waverings towards one side or the other, our general policy was to limit the supply of this class of books, so that when called for they were more often *out* than *in*. This was exasperating to the readers and very trying to the nerves of the issue clerks. Most of the assistants in the circulation department were 'liberals'; but those sitting in the catalogue room, 'far from the madding crowd,' were stern and severe in their mental attitude. Many discussions we had in our 'cabinet meetings,' the 'premier' weighing the arguments of the extremists, but seeing nothing better than keeping to the middle ground and endeavouring in divers ways to lead the immature readers in question to something better.

In addition to our regret and vexation at having to

supply such poor literary pabulum, the case was aggravated by the bad make-up and the high price of the books. Two years ago, by way of warning to both publishers and readers, we inserted in every book of this class a slip containing the following notice:

NOTICE.

Owing to the INFERIOR PAPER, POOR TYPE and EXCESSIVE PRICE of this author's works, no more copies will be added to the Library until a better edition is issued.

This announcement, repeated in 'Public Libraries,' stirred up the publishers; but it had no effect on the readers of the condemned books.

Finally, about a year ago, in one of our discussions a plan was suggested which promised well and was immediately put into operation. Eight lists headed 'Popular Novels' were printed. The novels selected, twenty on each list, were just a grade or two above Holmes and Southworth; and to suit the taste of those for whom they were designed, each list contained a large proportion of sentimental stories. These lists, $4 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ in., were of a convenient size for call-slips: 3,000 of each were printed; and one was inserted in every copy of Holmes, Southworth, *et id omne genus*, that was handed out over the counter or sent through the delivery stations. Soon the slips began to come in, and the novels listed were often 'out.' Of the best we bought additional copies; and then, that the selection might not be too restricted, we printed half-a-dozen more lists, gradually introducing a higher class and a greater variety of novels, but being careful to avoid dullness and to include only interesting novels, and always having regard to the taste of the special class we aimed to reach. The result was that by the middle of the past winter, for the first time, the supply of this class of novels was, in the main, equal to the demand, though in the meantime we had lessened the number of copies by not replacing those worn out. Before the plan was put into

operation the Assistant Librarian could, at any time, in the course of a month, gather a bundle of a thousand call-slips containing nothing but the novels of these authors, all of which were 'out' when called for. On more than one occasion an indignant card-holder came into my office with a call-slip filled with Southworth titles, complaining that he had handed it in over and over again, only to have it returned with the report 'all out.' He didn't believe the runners looked—they were too lazy, etc., etc. I always took the complainants straight to the section of the stack where Mrs. Southworth's novels are kept and showed him the bare shelves. This satisfied him that the boys had not been at fault; but why didn't we have more copies? In February, the height of the reading season, the Assistant Librarian reported that the Southworth shelves were nearly always full with six or eight copies of each novel 'in.'

It must not be supposed that these are the first, or the only, lists we have distributed. We have always offered help and guidance and stimulus to good reading by furnishing book lists and in various other ways. Our bulletin board is kept full of reading and reference lists. Every topic of popular interest is thus treated. Immediately upon the death of a distinguished man, a list of books about him and (if he is a writer) books by him is hung up. All special occasions, such as Christmas, Hallowe'en, Decoration Day, Arbor Day, etc., are treated in the same way. The entries on these lists, kept on cards, form a permanent subject index. During the past year forty-one subjects were thus bulletined. There were printed and distributed by the thousand from the issue desk and through the delivery stations lists of 'Readable Novels,' 'Best Hundred Novels,' a varied list entitled 'Good Books,' others headed 'One Hundred Good Books,' 'Interesting Books,' 'Books for Pastime,' etc. Numerous lists of books adapted to the various grades and books to be used in connection with the study of the geography and history of the principal countries of the world have been supplied to the

schools and given out to parents and children at the library. But all these produced no appreciable effect on the Holmes—Southworth—Clay—Fleming class of readers. If they saw the lists they gave no heed to them. It was necessary to have something specially adapted to their case, and then to present it to them in such a way that it could not be overlooked and yet in a way that could not give offence. Our previous efforts to guide readers to good books were in the nature of general or constitutional treatment, which would require years to produce a marked improvement. The lists I have described were a tonic applied right at the weak spot and with immediate effect. The plan is based on a fundamental trait of human nature, the universal inclination to do the easiest thing. The lists were at hand, and it was easier to use them than to write others, while the selections were so carefully made as to give general satisfaction. I recommend the remedy as a specific for literary anæmia or crudity of taste. A complete cure can, of course, be effected only through the slow process of educational treatment, *beginning in the lowest grades of the public schools.*

TO WHAT END?

Finally, what is it all for? What is the object aimed at? What is the end in view?

Well, what is the purpose of all human activity? What is the object of all man's toil and endeavour? What has been achieved by human labour through countless centuries?—The individual aims at personal happiness; but unconsciously he works for the development of character. In lowly life he fights for a livelihood: in higher stations he contests for a career: in all ranks the last and highest outcome is character. Society struggles blindly along the upward path of evolution. Consciousness of humanity is a recent inchoation, an embryo of late creation. Its development, with all the beneficent results therein promised,

depends on popular education—not on the ascent of the favoured few to loftier heights, but on the lifting up of the great mass of humanity to an understanding of the significance of life, individual and social.

For this work there is no such effective agency as the public library. What the varied activities of the world are unconsciously and indirectly doing, the public library is directly and consciously hastening. Through it the pages of history teach to the present—to all who have the making of the future—the lessons of the past. It brings the ignorant into contact with the sage: its biographies of saints and heroes fire the youthful mind with a lofty ambition, a noble enthusiasm: its silent, but eloquent, teachers accompany their thousands of pupils into the privacy of their chambers and talk to them on the most sacred subjects and in their most susceptible moments, and instill into their minds and hearts high ideals and pure sentiments that could find entrance at no other time and through no other channel.

This is the work of civilization. And we librarians should congratulate ourselves that we are thus engaged in the highest work that falls to the lot of man to do. How shall we do it? How shall we be true to our opportunities?—By devising or adopting the best charging system, by perfecting our catalogues, by securing beautiful buildings?—Yes, these things we must do; but we should never forget that these are but means to an end—and not the most important means. The mechanics of librarianship must not be allowed to usurp the place of its spirit. Methods count for less than culture; and the qualities essential to the highest success are enthusiasm, sympathy, tact, and self-devotion.¹ A board and librarian possessing

¹ 'In short, the most precious qualifications that a librarian can have are precisely such as cannot be taught: exactly as the case with teachers, whose true efficiency is dependent upon some priceless personal gifts, which are wholly incommunicable.'—*Editorial in February 'Scribner.'*

these characteristics will soon adopt or develop good methods, and, within financial limitations, will achieve the end and aim of a public library—the intellectual advancement and the moral betterment of the community. The public library also promotes material prosperity; but that, again, is only a means to an end, the end and object of all human endeavour—a higher social order and a purer, happier people.

‘That is the richest community which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy souls.’

F. M. CRUNDEN.

SOME OLD INITIAL LETTERS.



IN the following pages it is simply intended to bring together some notes on a collection of early woodcut letters in the possession of the writer, with reproductions of a few specimens illustrative of the subject, and which have not been given by recent bibliographers.

The earliest printed ornamental initials are those which occur in the Mayence Psalter; but these, especially the large B at the beginning, have been so much written about, and copied, that it would be superfluous to describe them here. After the Schoeffer initials, which were used in a certain number of other volumes from this press, besides the Psalter, the earliest in our collection are those from the German Bible printed at Nuremberg by Andreas Frisner and Johann Sensenschmidt in 1472. It is very rare to meet with these German Bibles in their original condition, the letters being generally painted, or daubed over and entirely spoilt as specimens of engraving. We have been fortunate enough, however, to obtain the first volume of the Nuremberg Bible as well as the Augsburg Bible of Zainer entirely free from any such defect. In the Zainer Bible the subjects are the same as in the other, but not exact copies. The letters differ, moreover, in height and width; those from the Nuremberg Bible being wider, and without the border of *Maiblumen* design added by the Augsburg printers. In the Augsburg Bible, besides these large historiated initials at the commencement of each of the sacred books, there is a smaller series, remarkable for the beauty of the letters themselves, the ornamental accompaniment being of the usual pattern.

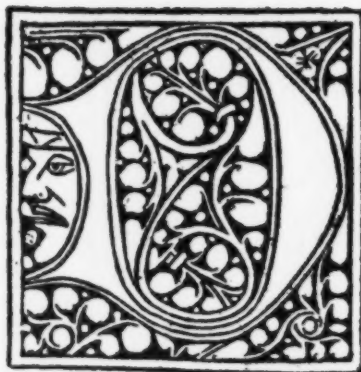


FROM NUREMBERG BIBLE.



FROM AUGSBURG BIBLE.

Another Bible with fine initials was published by Rihel at Bale in 1477. They are of several sizes, and present the first example we have met with of adding a profile to the



FROM RIHEL'S BIBLE OF BALE.

letter, a common ornament in the pen letters of manuscripts and frequently met with afterwards in printed books. They are generally of the *Maiblumen* pattern just mentioned, which, either as principal motive or as an accessory

ornament in historiated initials, was used by most of the Gothic printers during the ensuing half-century.

A reminiscence from one of the pages of a xylographic 'Ars Memorandi,' an S with two human figures, is repeated three times in this Bible, and, together with one of the profile letters and two others, is given on p. 46.



FROM THE LÜBECK 'RUDIMENTA NOVITIORUM.'

We shall have to speak of other letters from these towns, further on, but at present will pass in review those published in other places about the same time. The 'Cosmographia' of Ptolemy printed by Leonard Holl of Ulm is remarkable for the N at the beginning of the dedication, representing the author presenting his work to the Pope, and for a smaller letter on the ensuing page giving a full-face portrait. The specimens in our collection have un-

fortunately been painted by hand ; but they have both been reproduced by Bodemann in his 'Xylographische und Typographische Incunabeln,' and more recently Mr. Pollard has given the N in his 'Early Illustrated Books,' as well as in an article on Early Initials in one of the numbers of 'Bibliographica.' Throughout the 'Cosmo-



FROM THE LÜBECK JOSEPHUS.

graphia' are smaller woodcut capitals similar, as far as the ornament is concerned, to those used in Rihel's Bible.

Lübeck is represented in our collection by the 'Meditations of St. Bridget,' which contains a very curious suite, and by a single initial from the 'Rudimenta Novitiorum' with a battle scene which has been said to be 'The most remarkable' of a 'very splendid and noteworthy book.' This letter, a Q, has lately been reproduced in a pamphlet

on early Lübeck printing, but much reduced in size. Dibdin also gives it in its proper dimensions in one of the volumes of the 'Bibliotheca Spenceriana.' Another fine Lübeck book with initials, some of which are used in the 'Rudimenta,' is the Josephus. Mr. Pollard has again anticipated us by giving the P with what appears to us a Knight Templar (although his description is different) sitting by a reading-desk. The A from the same volume and the Q just mentioned will give (see pp. 47, 48) a



FROM 'MEDITATIONS OF ST. BRIDGET.'

good idea of the letters used by Lucas Brandis, whilst the smaller E is from the 1491 edition of 'St. Bridget' by Bartholomew Ghotan.

With Knoblochtzer, Schott, and Prüss, the first commencing in 1477, Grüninger at the end of the fifteenth, and Hupfuff at the commencement of the following century, we have printers who made a liberal use of initials, and who are well represented in our collection. Knoblochtzer has been so thoroughly explored by MM. Schorbach and Spirgatis that it is almost useless to look for anything that they have not already noted. We shall therefore content ourselves with a simple enumeration of

II.

E

the initials used by him, and the books in which they are to be found. The first in date of any importance is a magnificent D with two armed figures on the first page of the 'Burgundische Historie,' and which occurs also several times in the 'Schachzabelbuch' of Jacobus de Cessolis. The latter volume also contains a large S with two personages, one of whom is in a fool's cap, which also ornaments the first page of the 'Dyalogus Salomonis et Marcolfi.' These are the largest of the Knoblochtzer initials. MM. Schorbach and Spirgatis give one letter only of a set afterwards used by Hupfuff in his 'Melusine,' several of which are to be found in volumes by Martin Schott. These letters, of which we give a specimen from Schott's 'Vier und zwanzig gulden harpfen,' are copied from the well-known anthropomorphic letters of the master of 1466, the D used by Knoblochtzer being an almost exact reduction. Another handsome initial from this press is the I on the first page of 'Belial' of 1483, which occurs also several times in the 'Leben der Heiligen Drei Könige' and in 'The Chess-book' of De Cessolis. It represents an angel with outspread wings above, and a man forcing open a lion's mouth below, with branching ornaments on either side. In these two volumes are also to be found eleven specimens of a curious set of twelve D's representing the occupations of the twelve months of the year. Most of the preceding are in our collection. Another writer on Strasburg printing, Dr. Kristeller, gives the I from 'Belial,' an anthropomorphic letter from Schott's 'Lucidarius' (the same as used by Knoblochtzer), two from the 'Plenarium' of the same printer, and three (including two of the Calendar D's) from Knoblochtzer's 'Melusine'; of later date an O representing an astronomer surveying the moon from the 'Prognosticatio' of Lichtenberger of Kistler, 1497, and four specimens of Grüninger, three from his Virgil, and one from a 'Plenarium' of 1515.

Of all these Strasburg letters the most characteristic, not

being met with in books from any other town, are the anthropomorphic initials, and next to these the Virgil initials of Grüninger. Those selected for illustration are



FROM 'VIER UND ZWANZIG
GULDEN HARPFEN.'



FROM G. DE OCKAM.

ANTHROPOMORPHIC LETTERS.



FROM GRÜNINGER'S VIRGIL.

(1) an anthropomorphic Q from 'Vier und zwanzig gulden harpfen,' and another, a C, from a rare book, the 'Scriptum in primum librum Sententiarum venerabilis

inceptoris fratris Guilhelmi de Ockam,' etc., etc., without printer's name, but dated 1483; this C occurs in another volume in our collection, an undated 'Secreta' of Aristotle; (2) a couple of Grüninger's Virgil letters; and (3) one



FROM 'EVANGELIA.'

of the huge initials from the 'Evangelia' of Geiler von Kaisersperg by the same printer.

The printers of Cologne do not appear to have been very liberal with ornamental improvements to their books in the fifteenth century. In our collection this town is

represented by a large P, with a Virgin and Child like the Madonna de San Sisto and grotesque profiles at the angles, at the beginning of a Donatus without date or printer's name; and the only other initial we have met with is an R from a missal printed by Quentel in 1494, in which all the other initials are supplied by hand. In the first quarter of the fifteenth century it is different, and we meet with complete alphabets by known designers. The best of these are the children's alphabet by Anton von



DESIGNED BY A. VON WORMS.



DESIGNED BY DÜRER.

LETTERS USED IN COLOGNE BY CERVICORNUS.

Worms, and that attributed to Albert Dürer and first used by Cervicornus. Butsch, in his 'Bücher-ornamentik,' gives them both. To refrain from giving everything already reproduced by Butsch would be to exclude all the most typical alphabets of the early sixteenth century, and this is going beyond our intention. We therefore select a letter from each of the alphabets mentioned.

Returning to Augsburg, and going back to the end of the fifteenth century, the choicest specimens we have met with are the initials distributed through the Ratdolt Psalter of 1499, and those in the Psalter of 1503 by Furter

of Bale, which, although entirely different in treatment, are equally interesting. The L from the latter has a peculiarly mediæval kind of look, which is not caught by the corresponding Augsburg initial. Furter has a very curious alphabet of non-historiated letters, most of



FROM AUGSBURG PSALTER,
KATDOLT, 1499.



FROM FURTER'S BALE PSALTER,
1503.



OTHER LETTERS USED BY FURTER, 1499.

which are to be found in the 'Liber Decretorum sive panormia Ivonis,' printed in 1499. We give one or two of these on account of their unexpectedness rather than their beauty, for it is difficult to imagine how any such designs could have been thought of.

In Spanish books, with the exception of the Zamora set of initials, of which Mr. Pollard has given the L, we have

met with but few remarkable historiated letters. Unfortunately, there is only one known copy of the book which contains the Zamora initials, that in the British Museum, and the printing is for the most part so bad as to make them almost unphotographable.

Italian, and especially Venetian printers, are usually



FROM 'VITA DEI SANCTI PADRI,' 1501.

lavish in book ornamentation; but in the case of Venice the monograph of Ongania has left very little to glean, whilst Mr. Redgrave has thoroughly exhausted the subject of Ratdolt. It is, however, a pleasure to find that one Venetian book, and that one as curious as it is rare, has been overlooked by the Venetian bibliographer. This is the 'Vita dei Sancti Padri vulgare historiata,' printed in 1501 by Otinus da Pavia de la Luna. On the title-page

of this volume is the printer's mark in red, and at the beginning of each chapter there is a half-page picture representing the torturing or some other incident in the



INITIAL LETTERS FROM THE 'MISSALE CARTHUSIENSE,' FERRARA, 1503.

life of the saint, with a border sometimes continued down and round the bottom of the page. Below each picture the chapter begins with a large initial, and others smaller,

sometimes to the extent of three or four in a page, are distributed throughout the text at the beginnings of the paragraphs. They all contain quaint little pictures of events in the saints' lives, one of the most frequent being their temptation by devils, who are sometimes depicted with their horns and tails, sometimes in the form of an obscene animal, and sometimes, as in the temptation of St. Antony, as a beautiful woman.

Our three specimens (p. 55) from this book must stand for Venice, for although not so representative as many of the ornamental alphabets of Ratdolt or Aldus, or the historiated children sets used by Tacuini de Tridino and others, they have the not inconsiderable merit of belonging to a very little known printer, and of being, as far as modern reproduction is concerned, *inédits*. The same thing, we believe, may be said of our letters from all the other Italian towns.

We have no initials of any interest in books printed either in Rome or Naples, and Florence imitates Venice, especially, however, leaning towards linear treatment of the subject, as in the Giunta Missals. Some Ferrara books have handsome and characteristic non-historiated initials, but in a 'Missale Carthusiense' of 1503 there is a set of pictorial letters, as is usual in missals, of different sizes. The largest of the three given is the A at the beginning of the first page, which in missals always represents David. The G and C call for no comment.



INITIAL FROM VERONA, 1504.

A curious book published by Lucas Antonius of Florence at Verona in 1504, entitled 'Delitiosa Explicatio de

58 SOME OLD INITIAL LETTERS.

sensibilibus deliciis paradisi,' by D. Celsus Mapheus, has a number of peculiar interlaced letters of no great beauty, as well as a few others. Its chief adornment, however, consists of the C at the beginning of the preface, here reproduced, and which our readers will no doubt be able to interpret.

Books published at Sienna at this period are not common, and a suite of initials from the 'Augustini Dati Senensis Opera,' printed by Nardi in 1503, must be extremely rare.



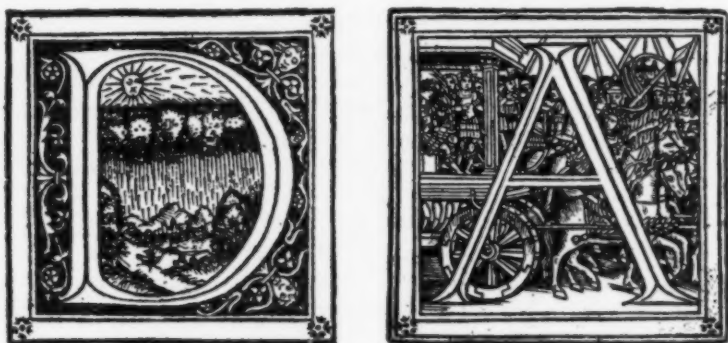
INITIALS OF NARDI OF SIENNA, 1503.

We were assured by Olschki, whose experience is so considerable, that he had never met with this volume before. Some of the letters are no doubt portraits; in others there are groups, and they no doubt refer to some historical circumstance.

At Como printing was not introduced until 1521, the date of the Vitruvius, the first book of Gotardus de Ponte, the proto-typographer of that town. Como was already celebrated for the beauty of its situation, for the colophon, after giving the names of the 'Magnifico et Nobile' 'commentators,' 'emendators,' and 'castigators,' states that the volume was printed in the 'amœna & delectuole citate di

Como.' One of the initials, a D, gives a view of the lake during a shower. The A is probably a triumphal car.

The preceding notes and reproductions are not intended to give anything like an exhaustive account of fifteenth and early sixteenth century initials. The French contingent, which, with the exception of the large calligraphic letters on the title-pages at that period, has been hitherto almost entirely unnoticed, is of great interest; and there are



INITIALS FROM VITRUVIUS OF GOTARDUS DE PONTE, COMO, 1521.

many German missals with most remarkable letters, of as great artistic merit as any of the illustrative engravings given in the numerous reprints and studies on early books. In the cases selected above, had space permitted, in nearly every instance, except Verona, eight or ten letters might have been reproduced. The German and Latin Bibles would furnish each between thirty and forty, and the 'Lives of the Saints' a hundred or more different pictorial initials.

OSCAR JENNINGS.

THE 'GUTENBERG' BIBLE.



OF the many studies and essays, good and bad, which the Gutenberg celebration this year has called forth in Germany, the most attractive to one who is interested in the development of printing as a craft is that which was issued by the Royal Library at Berlin some months since. Its writer, Dr. Paul Schwenke, has succeeded in gaining fresh light from a source which most of us believed to have been exhausted by Dr. Dziatzko in his treatise on the same subject ten years ago. This new work on the 42-line or 'Mazarine' Bible supplements in several respects the results arrived at by Dr. Schwenke's forerunners, but is chiefly remarkable for approaching the problems from a somewhat different standpoint. He undertook a very painstaking and minute investigation into the relations of the individual letters to one another, both in the case of different letters or 'sorts' placed side by side in the same line, and of the same letter as it appears in different parts of the work. He has thus satisfied himself, and brings forward arguments to convince others, that the technique of the printer of this Bible is such that, with the exception of a Donatus or two, the Paris 'Cantica ad matutinas,' which is a fragment of a liturgical Psalter, and the 30-line indulgence of 1454-55, the production of no other book now extant can be safely attributed to him. The criticism which one feels inclined to make on these conclusions is that the case as against Schöffer seems by no means convincing. The natural development is towards greater freedom in the use of material, and Schöffer's characteristics are singularly like those of Dr. Schwenke's printer. He is shown to be a man with a strong sense of method, so much so that even

in the distribution of the different sorts of paper to his pressmen some kind of rotation was observed; the work was carefully planned as a whole, and after its first experimental stage was past, moved on without a hitch, though the number of compositors and presses simultaneously at work was a large one. Great care was thus taken to avoid undue waste or delay due to want of organisation: at the same time no sign of scanty resources is apparent, or of parsimony, in sparing any change considered advisable for the success of the undertaking, or making shift with scrappy material (as was done with the paper used in the 36-line Bible), or any other than the best. Dr. Schwenke is able to give a detailed account of the remarkable way in which the type was constantly worked upon while the book was passing through the press; and even estimates, by an ingenious chain of part reasoning, part conjecture, with some degree of plausibility the number of copies that may have been produced both on paper and on vellum.

It is well known that during the progress of the work, some time after the final adoption of the 42-line page in place of the original one of 40 lines, it was decided that the number of copies to be printed should be increased, and accordingly it became necessary to set up afresh such part of the text as had been already printed off. Hence the existence of a double 'edition' of certain quires, which is valuable to the investigator in many ways, not only by showing him in how many places at once the compositors took the copy in hand, but more especially because the additional number required was not struck off as soon as the increase of the edition was decided, but was left to the end of the work. Thus the two 'editions' show respectively the earliest and latest period of type and technique, and are so much the more serviceable for purposes of comparison. The chief object which the designer of the fount had in view was to equalise as much as possible the intervals between the perpendicular strokes, which in a church type are more prominent than

the rest. He thus sacrificed to the appearance of his page as a whole much of the beauty of the single letters. For it was impossible to attain the effect he aimed at, in the case of letters such as c, e, r, which have projections on the front side of their up and down strokes, without suppressing the angular bosses on the hind side of the letters following these, on which much of their success as letters depends. Accordingly a complete alphabet of secondary forms was made, in which the left or hind side was left perfectly flat, and was brought to the very edge of the shank, so that it might fit closely on to the preceding letter. This was probably managed in many cases by trimming an existing letter, and then striking a fresh matrix from it; but in some cases a new punch had to be cut. The reckless way in which the first printers multiplied their 'sorts,' and the frequency with which a whole fount is disused after one or two impressions, without ever being recast, make it certain that this process involved by no means the same labour that the steel punches of to-day require, and that both punches and matrices were of some comparatively soft and perishable material; very probably, as Dr. Schwenke thinks, at any rate with founts of large body, the punches were of wood, and the matrices of lead, into which the punches were struck while it was half-melted. The rule adopted with regard to these secondary forms was that they were to be used after certain letters, in all seven capital and nine lower-case sorts; and the practice was invariable. With regard to a tenth letter, the f, which projects in a similar way, the matter is rather different. The top of this letter stands at such a height as makes it possible for shorter letters to be adapted in such a way that they will fit under it. Hence the letter following the f is the main form, except where it is also a tall one, such as b; in these cases the secondary form was used, or the point of the f was slightly filed and fitted on the main form of the b. The combinations occurring most frequently, ff, ft, were cast as a single letter. An

exception to the use of the main form after *f* is found in certain definitely restricted parts of the work, where after the secondary *f* the secondary form of the short letter following is found, possibly from some notion of assimilation. But with this slight exception the rule is for the most part strictly held to, and Dr. Schwenke thinks it the best test that can possibly be applied as a means of identifying or rejecting other books attributed to the same press. Thus the neglect of the rule in the Bible of 36 lines, and in such books of Schöffer as are printed in types which have similar characteristics, is to him strong evidence that the printers of those books did not know the rules here adopted for the use of secondary forms, or, knowing them, did not trouble to apply them; consequently Schöffer cannot be identified with the printer of the 42-line Bible, and Dr. Dziatzko's view that the two Bibles are due to a single hand is likewise shown to be mistaken.

Another detail which leads to the same conclusion is to be found in the spacing out of the lines. After allowing for variations due to the different degrees of skill in this respect of the several compositors, who had nothing to guide them but the eye, no one can doubt that their instructions were to make the lines as even as possible. It was, however, laid down at the same time that the full point, which stands on the line, the hyphen, and that form of *s* final which is like the figure 5 and stands above the line, should be reckoned, when they came at the end, to be outside the column. These, therefore, invariably project into the margin. For the higher or half point no rule was at first laid down, but it was finally decided to include it in the column; thus it is found at first indifferently in the line or outside it, but in the later parts of the book it is never placed in the margin. These striking rules and usages are not reproduced in the 36-line Bible or in the books of Schöffer.

The various changes undergone by the type during the course of printing have been worked out with great care by

Dr. Schwenke; the story of them forms a noteworthy instance of the unvarying diligence and indifference to trouble shown by the printer in carrying out his plans, as they were formed at first, and then from time to time modified. The fact that the column of 42 lines occupies almost exactly the same space as that of 40 lines has long been known, but with hardly any exception the difference has always been attributed to the use of leading on the 40-line page. This, as Dr. Schwenke clearly proves, is not so; the change is due to successive alterations in the body of the type. The page of 41 lines shows an intermediate stage. For this the letters were reduced in height by some $\frac{3}{10}$ of a millimetre, so that the 41 lines measure nearly 5 mm. less than a 40-line column. This was done by means of the file for each letter separately; and its effect on them is to be seen best in the case of those letters which run up to the top of the 'face.' The upper edge of the capitals is flattened and rounded, and the marks of abbreviation are visibly thinner. When, after a single trial of 41 lines, the definitive arrangement of a page of 42 lines was adopted, a further very slight lessening in height took place, the final result being that the 42 lines are about $\frac{7}{10}$ of a millimetre shorter than the 40 lines of the type before alteration. Though so slight ($\frac{1}{10}$ mm. only) this second reduction has left very clear traces, as it broke into the crown of the semicircular stroke over the *i* which is used for a dot. The old letters, thus mutilated, were gradually replaced by new letters cast on the shorter body from fresh punches. The form of the separate letters, the appearance of the page as a whole, and its readableness were so greatly injured by the change, that it is difficult to find any gain that can have been so great as to induce the printer to undergo so much labour and expense for a worse result. It seems hardly possible that it was merely on account of the saving in space, which, Dr. Schwenke reckons, would amount to 32 leaves in the whole work, as one would think that so small a gain would not cover the cost of the changes;

but it must be remembered that in any case new letters would have had to be made to replace the old when worn out, and it may be that the comparatively small quantity of type existing made the task of filing down each sort separately not so great a task as appears likely at first sight.

The calculations of Dr. Schwenke as to the probable number of copies which formed the edition are based on the proportionate use made of two of the four kinds of paper used for the book. He found that in a normal copy this is as 4 to 13, there being 16 sheets of the one and 52 of the other. Thus, of the former paper a ream of 480 sheets would be enough for 30 copies. Four times this quantity would give 120 copies. But the appearance of a single sheet of this paper in three successive quires suggests that the amount was divisible by three, so that it may have been six reams. This makes 180 copies, or, allowing for waste, say 170 copies on paper, of which some 30 or more still exist. The 11 extant on vellum may represent an original number of 30, or an edition of 200 copies in all. From an inscription in the copy on vellum formerly in the Ashburnham collection, and now in New York, we learn that at an early period the two volumes with their illuminations were valued at 100 florins each. A paper copy may have been worth half this sum or less.

The facsimiles with which Dr. Schwenke's work is illustrated have been carefully chosen to illustrate his arguments. Those which show the same text in the 40 and 42-line 'editions' side by side are especially valuable. In one or two of his reproductions some 'spaces' which have worked up are shown, and another gives the impression made by a letter which has fallen sideways on the margin of the forme. This is hardly satisfactory, as the indentation of the type necessarily disappears in a process-block, and all that is left is the mark made by the ink which penetrated the frame of paper attached to the tympan for the purpose of keeping the margins clean.

We may, however, take Dr. Schwenke's word for it that the shape of this letter supports the conclusion drawn from the spaces just referred to, which never show anything higher than the top of the short letters. This seems to prove that part of the type was made with the upper shoulder cut rather low, for the purpose of fitting into the f; and Dr. Schwenke says that the letter lying on the margin, which he takes to be a g, shows the same peculiarity. Many other valuable and curious pieces of information in his book must be perforce passed over here, or but briefly mentioned. He finds that at first each doubled sheet of paper was fastened to the tympan by no fewer than ten pins, two at the top and two at the bottom of each column, and the others in the outer margin. The space between the columns, and some part at least of the margin, was built up with masses of quadrats, some of which have left an impression on the paper. Dr. Schwenke's notes on the first binders of various copies are also of interest. He has discovered that the binder, Hainz or Heinrich Coster (misread in the South Kensington catalogue as 'Huntermaster'), worked at Lübeck, while Hans Fogel, who bound at least two existing copies, was a bookbinder at Erfurt, and at some time after 1478 was succeeded there by one Paul Lehener. The ingenious table (following that of Dr. Dziatzko) on pp. 52, 53, indicates at a glance the arrangement of the sorts of paper in the various quires, the division of the work among the six presses, as well as the points at which certain changes in plan or new forms of letters first appear. The exhaustive list of known copies is of great value, and the writer devotes some pages at the end to a short account of the Bible of 36 lines and the Catholicon group of 1460, in order to prove that they cannot possibly be the work of the printer of the 42-line Bible.

ROBERT PROCTOR.

THE JUVENILE LIBRARY. •

THE first appearances in print of men who have afterwards become eminent are always interesting; sometimes by reason of the precocious excellence of the composition, and sometimes also by its lack of quality, or by its striking difference in subject or tone from the afterwork.

Dr. Richard Garnett, in his edition of the 'Opium Eater,' has reprinted the first essay of Thomas De Quincey that attained the permanence of type. This was published in a juvenile periodical which appears to deserve the attention of bibliographers and book-lovers.

At the beginning of the year 1800 there appeared the first number of a magazine for the young. The monthly parts were issued under the title of 'The Monthly Preceptor,' but the half-yearly volumes were published under another name, and the aims of the conductors cannot perhaps be better stated than by a transcript of the title-page of the first volume: 'The Juvenile Library, including a complete course of instruction on every useful subject: particularly Natural and Experimental Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Natural History, Botany, Ancient and Modern History, Biography, Geography and the Manners and Customs of Nations, Ancient and Modern Languages, English Law, Penmanship, and Belles Lettres. With Prize Productions of Young Students; and a monthly distribution of prizes, value fifteen guineas and upwards. London: Printed by T. Gillett, Salisbury-Square, Fleet Street, for R. Phillips. Sold by T. Hurst, 32, Paternoster Row, London, and by all other Booksellers in Great Britain and Ireland. [Price 6s. 6d. in Boards.]'

When it is added that the whole of this encyclopædic instruction was intended to be given in a work not to extend beyond four or five volumes, it will be evident that the projectors were hopeful as well as enterprising. As a matter of fact, six volumes of 'The Monthly Preceptor' were issued. Whether our grandfathers and grandmothers were keen readers of the account of the ourang-outang which was 'illustrated by a coloured copper-plate' of a highly imaginative character, and to what extent they profited by the lessons on penmanship and artificial memory, are matters for conjecture; but the prizes were a distinct success, and in the dingy volumes of 'The Juvenile Library' we have 'enshrined and embalmed' the early efforts of Leigh Hunt, Thomas De Quincey, Thomas Love Peacock, William Johnson Fox, George Ormerod, the Cheshire historian, and Henry Kirke White. Amongst the prize-winners whose literary efforts were not printed were N. W. Senior, and Sir Edward Parry, the Arctic explorer. The 'original projector' and proprietor is named on the last page of the last volume, Mr. Richard Phillips, 99, Hatton Garden, London.

In the memoir of Kirke White, his biographer, Robert Southey, observes: 'There was at this time a magazine in publication called "The Monthly Preceptor" which proposed prize themes for boys and girls to write upon; and which was encouraged by many schoolmasters, some of whom, for their own credit, and that of the important institutions in which they were placed, should have known better than to encourage it. But in schools, and in all practical systems of education, emulation is made the mainspring, as if there were not enough of the leaven of disquietude in our natures without inoculating it with this dilutement—this vaccine virus of envy. True it is that we need encouragement in youth. . . . But such practices as that of writing for public prizes, of publicly declaiming, and of enacting plays before the neighbouring gentry, teach boys to look for applause instead of being satisfied

with approbation; and foster in them the vanity which needs no cherishing.' This may be good doctrine, but it evidently cuts at the root of many things of greater moment than prizes offered by a juvenile magazine.

Kirke White received a silver medal for a translation from Horace, and a pair of twelve-inch globes for a prose article describing an imaginary tour from London to Edinburgh. These stimulations do not appear to have increased the vanity of one who was singularly unaffected. That Kirke White was not only modest but also unusually talented is beyond question, although the exaggerated estimate of contemporaries has not been confirmed by posterity.

The contribution of Fox, who in the future was to gain celebrity as an Anti-Corn Law orator, and to combine with success the duties of M.P. for Oldham with those of preacher at the famed South Place Chapel, was the solution which appears in the first volume of a mathematical problem. He was afterwards 'commended' and so attained minor prizes. His name occurs in each of the first four volumes.

Peacock's appearance is distinctly literary in character, though it presents very little prophecy of the brilliant, half-genial, half-cynical, and sometimes extravagant humour of 'Crotchet Castle' and 'Gryll Grange.' This juvenile effort appeared as an answer to the question: 'Is History or Biography the more improving Study? By Master T. L. Peacock, aged 14.' The editors premise that 'the following is published, not as a specimen of poetry particularly excellent, but as an extraordinary effort of genius in a boy of this age; and as such the proprietors have rewarded him with an extra prize, viz., an elementary book, value 5s.' Then follows the poem thus munificently 'crowned':

'With bright examples the young mind to fire,
And Emulation's gen'rous flame inspire

Biography her modest page displays,
 And follows one alone thro' life's uncertain ways.
 'Tis her's, alike, with faithful pen t' impart
 The virtues, or the failing, of his heart;
 She tells of all the talents he possest,
 She makes us Virtue love, or Vice detest;
 She makes our hearts espouse the former's cause,
 And 'twixt the two a glowing contrast draws.
 This does Biography; but Hist'ry too
 Oft holds out bright examples to the view,
 And to abhorrence oft, in colours bright,
 Brings Vice's black deformity to light,
 But more than this: Time's wasting hand she braves;
 And former days from dark Oblivion saves;
 She can recall full many a long past age,
 Can fill with great events th' instructive page;
 Can "deeds of days of other years" unfold,
 And tell the actions of "the times of old";
 Can make, in pleasing characters, appear,
 What we now are, and our forefathers were.
 She oft, in glowing accents, tells how War
 "Yokes the red dragons of his iron car,"
 When, with his train of mis'ries at his hand,
 He comes to waste and desolate the land,
 Then, as she shifts the gloomy scene with ease,
 She tells the blessing of returning Peace.

' Without her aid, how many a mighty name
 Would now be totally unknown to fame!
 E'en Philip's son, who once so bravely fought,
 The Prince of Vict'ries, would be quite forgot!
 Titus' good deeds were in Oblivion thrown,
 And Cæsar's great ones now no longer known!

' Hail then to thee, fair Hist'ry! 'tis for thee
 To wear the golden crown of Victory!
 Like as the morning star, with humble ray,

Throws a faint glimmer at the dawn of day,
 Soon as the Sun begins his beams to shed,
 He shrinks away to nought, and hides his head;
 'Tis thus Biography, whose humble pace
 Pursues one only through life's eager race;
 Before bright Hist'ry's open, daring ray,
 She dwindles into nought, and shrinks away!
 Hail then to thee, fair Hist'ry! 'tis for thee
 To wear the golden crown of Victory!

The 'Attestation' runs: 'The writer of the foregoing was 14 years old on the 18th of last October. He was six years at Mr. Wick's academy, Englefield-green, and is now a clerk with us. He has not received the least assistance. Ludlow, Fraser, and Co., Angel-court, Throgmorton-Street, Feb. 11, 1800.'

The conductors of 'The Monthly Preceptor' proposed Horace's Ode, 'Integer vitæ,' for a competitive translation by 'young gentlemen who have not exceeded sixteen years of age.' To stimulate the ardour of these budding poets it was announced 'the best production will entitle the writer to a prize value Three Guineas, consisting of Books or Instruments of his own choice. The seven next best in order of merit will be entitled to a book each, value five shillings' (pp. 213-214). The three that were regarded as the best were printed, with the attestations by which they were authenticated. Here we must be content with reproducing in each case the first half of the poem:

FIRST PRIZE TRANSLATION OF HORACE,
 Ode 22, Book I.

By Master J. H. L. HUNT, Aged 15.

TO ARISTIUS FUSCUS.

Innocence is never without defence.

'The man, my friend, that in his breast
 With ev'ry purer virtue's blest,

Safe in his own approving heart,
Needs not the Moor's protecting dart;
Nor seeks to bend against the foe
With nervous arm the pliant bow;
Nor o'er his neck throws, proudly great,
The quiver big with pois'nous fate.

' Whether on Afric's desert coast,
'Mid burning sands his steps are lost,
Or where Caucasian rocks on high
Lift their proud summits to the sky,
Heap'd with inhospitable snow,
Pale gleaming o'er the plains below;
Or where the streams romantic glide
Of soft Hydaspes' silver tide.

' For as along the Sabine grove,
I sung the beauties of my love,
And, free from care, too distant stray'd,
Within its dark embow'ring shade;
The prowling wolf, with blood-shot eye,
Unarm'd beheld me wand'ring nigh,
And, whilst I shook in silent dread,
With howls the rav'ning monster fled!

' GENTLEMEN,

' I herewith transmit you my unassisted translation of the before-mentioned passage from Horace, the success of which my warmest wishes must naturally attend. If its freedom and diffuseness are contrary to the design you hold out in proposing *a translation*, I must beg leave to apologise for it (the only manner in which I believe it is possible) by referring to the observation which the ingenious Mr. Mickle has made in his preface to his "*Lusiad*," that when we attempt a close and literal translation of the poet, it is impossible to preserve the poetical and harmonious beauties of the original; which brings to my

remembrance an assertion of M. de Voltaire, in which he very aptly observes, when speaking of a bad or good translation, "the letter, it may truly be said, killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

'I am, Gentlemen,
'Your very obliged humble servant,
'J. H. L. HUNT.

'To the above authorities let me add the still higher one of Horace himself, who says, in his *Art of Poetry*,
'"*Nec verbum verbo curabis reddere fibus [fidus] Interpres.*"'

'ATTESTATIONS.

'This is to attest that the above translation is the unassisted production of my brother, J. H. L. Hunt, educated at Christ's Hospital.

'ROBERT HUNT.

'No. 9, Robert St., Bedford Row.'

'This is to certify that I believe the above translation is solely the production of J. H. L. Hunt, lately in this Hospital.

'ARTHUR WILLIAM TROLLOPE,
'Upper Grammar Master of Christ's Hospital.'

SECOND PRIZE TRANSLATION OF HORACE,
Ode 22, Book I.

By GEORGE W. ORMEROD, Aged 15, of Bolton.

To ARISTIUS FUSCUS.

'The man, unaw'd by guilty fear,
Protection from the pointed spear,
Or Moorish bow disdains;
He needs, my friend, no venom'd dart,
For innocence protects the heart,
Where conscious virtue reigns :

‘Whether through depths of trackless snows,
 Or where the fam’d Hydaspes flows,
 He bends his weary way;
 Or where the treacherous quicksands o’er
 The surging billows loudly roar,
 And dash the foaming spray.

‘For late as in a Sabine grove
 I careless sang the maid I love,
 Too far my steps were led;
 A grim wolf stalk’d across my way,
 I stood a weak, defenceless prey,
 But me unarm’d he fled.

‘ATTESTATION.

‘GENTLEMEN,

‘A young gentleman entrusted to my care, of whom you have before made honorable mention, is ambitious of entering the lists again with your youthful competitors.

‘The production he has sent, is, I believe, his own, without any assistance from me, and without any possibility of being assisted by any one in my family.

‘I am, Gentlemen, Your very Obedient Servant,

‘THO. BANCROFT.

‘My daughter has received Dr. Mavor’s Natural History, for which she begs to return her grateful acknowledgment.’¹

¹ Thomas Bancroft was born in 1756, in Deansgate, Manchester, where his father was a thread-maker. He was educated at the Grammar School, and at Brasenose College, Oxford. After serving as an assistant in his old school he was appointed Master of the King’s School, Chester. He married, against the wishes of her father, Miss Bennett of Wellaston Hall, and in 1793 was appointed vicar of Bolton, a post he retained until his death in 1811. He had a high reputation as a

THIRD PRIZE TRANSLATION OF HORACE,

Ode 22, Lib. I.

By THOMAS QUINCEY, Aged 15, of Mr. Spencer's
Academy, Winckfield, Wilts.

'Fuscus! the man whose heart is pure,
Whose life unsullied by offence,
Needs not the jav'lines of the Moor
In his defence.

'Should he o'er Lybia's burning sands
Fainting pursue his breathless way,
No bow he'd seek to arm his hands
Against dismay.

'Quivers of poisoned shafts he'd scorn,
Nor, though unarmed, would feel a dread
To pass where Caucasus forlorn
Rears his huge head.

'In his own conscious worth secure,
Fearless he'd roam amidst his foes,
Where fabulous Hydaspes pure,
Romantic flows.

'For late as in the Sabine wood
Singing my Lalage I strayed,
Unarmed I was, a wolf there stood;
He fled afraid.'

'ATTESTATION.

'The foregoing is the unassisted translation of Master
teacher, and in 1788 published a volume of 'Prolusiones Poeticæ,'
Greek, Latin and English exercises written by himself and his scholars.
The daughter, who gained a prize for a translation of 'Les Deux
Becfigues,' was but eleven years old.

Thomas Quincy, a student in this academy, under the age of fifteen years.

‘Edw. Spencer, Rector of Winkfield, Wilts.’

‘June 3rd, 1800.’

These Horatian exercises appear in vol. i., pp. 346-350.

Two out of the three winners were Manchester boys, and they all three attained in after life to distinction, though in very different ways. From a purely literary point of view it is certain that the one who came third has the strongest hold, and one that is increasing, upon the public mind. It is certainly a remarkable fact that this one competition should have first brought into print Leigh Hunt, perhaps the most charming of all the English essayists; Ormerod, the profound and laborious antiquary; and De Quincey, the master of ‘impassioned prose.’

Leigh Hunt in his ‘Autobiography’ makes no reference to this early triumph, and speaks contemptuously of his ‘Juvenilia.’ This was a volume which his father published by subscription. It contained verses written by Leigh Hunt between the age of twelve and sixteen, and included his poems from ‘The Monthly Preceptor.’ In some respects it was a foolish book, but the most ridiculous elements were not contributed by the precocious boy, but by his unwise father. The first edition appeared in 1801, and the fourth in 1804. The third edition is the one known to me, and it contains a lengthy list of subscribers, which is remarkable for an odd series of complimentary remarks which may be attributed to the Rev. Isaac Hunt, and are not unworthy of Micawber or Pecksniff. Thus we learn that Master Henry Cutler was ‘distinguished at a very early age for his musical abilities’; that the Rev. John Ewing, D.D., of Philadelphia, was ‘one of the first mathematicians and philosophers in the United States’; that Thomas Fothergill was a ‘relative of the late eminent physician’; that Dr. Jenner was the ‘author of the

most ingenious discovery of the eighteenth century'; that Barbadoes is 'one of the first and most faithful colonies of old England'; that Lord Kenyon was 'firm and steady to his trust'; that Mr. Lloyd, the bookseller, was 'obliging to all—very friendly to men of letters'; that William Pitt was 'the eloquent son of the illustrious Chatham, England's successful War Minister'; that D. Rittenhouse was 'one of the greatest philosophers of the present age'; that Dr. Benjamin Rush was one 'whose tender care of the lives of his fellow-citizens, at the risque of his own, when the yellow fever raged, endeared his name to every philanthropist in the Old as well as in the New World'; that the Rev. William Smith, D.D., was 'one of the first who diffused the light of science over the New World'; that Henry Thornton, M.P., was 'the poor man's friend—"They who turn many to righteousness, shall shine as the stars for ever"'; and that Mr. Nicholas Waln was 'in his youth an eminent barrister at Philadelphia, and for some years past as eminent a preacher of the Society of Friends—a people simple, yet for the most part subtle.' That Leigh Hunt may have inherited some of his theological liberalism from his father seems possible from the annotation on the name of the Rev. Wm. Vidler, who is described as 'the catholic and worthy successor in Artillery-street chapel, of the late eminent, eloquent preacher of the love of God to man, Elhanan Winchester—the powerful maintainer of the sovereignty of Jesus Christ over Satan and the kingdom of darkness—the savage Calvinist and hard-hearted predestinarian.' Now whilst some of this information is certainly accurate, it is a little out of place, if not superfluous, where it has been placed. Leigh Hunt received from 'The Monthly Preceptor' a copy of Knox's 'Essays' as a fourth prize for his exercise in answer to the question 'Is History or Biography the more improving Study?' He was commended for a translation of a passage from Cicero's twenty-sixth oration, 'Pro Archia,' but was just disqualified as a candidate by

his age (p. 135). He was again commended (p. 208), and on another occasion is thus addressed: 'Master H. L. Hunt, whose information is extensive, and his genius luxuriant, to become a good writer only wants a little attention to arrangement, and to study the art of arts, the art to blot.' He received a silver medal, value half a guinea, as the second prize for an essay 'On Humanity to the Brute Creation as a moral and Christian duty.' A poem of Hunt's on 'Retirement' appears in the second volume of 'The Monthly Preceptor.' For the Horatian translation he was to have books or instruments to the value of three guineas, but what he selected is not stated.

George Ormerod was born in High Street, Manchester, 20th October, and baptized at St. Mary's in November, 1785. He was sent to the King's School at Chester, where the Rev. Thomas Bancroft was master, and when that gentleman became vicar of Bolton, Ormerod went with him as a private pupil. Ormerod lived the life of a country gentleman of literary and scientific tastes, received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from Oxford, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society and other learned bodies. He was the author of various archæological treatises and of a 'History of Cheshire,' which has taken its place as a classic of topographical literature. It is curious that in his communications to 'The Monthly Preceptor' he uses the middle name of Waring, which was not given to him in baptism, but which he gave to his son and namesake George Waring Ormerod, the distinguished geologist. But there is no room to doubt that the schoolboy poet and the future antiquary are identical. For his translation of 'Integer vitæ' he received Dr. Gregory's 'Elements of a Polite Education' (p. 356). This was not his only success. Another copy of Dr. Gregory was awarded to him for an endeavour 'to show by argument and example the happiness of the middle station of life, and that it is true wisdom to pursue in all things what has been termed the golden mean.' He was adjudged to have deserved books to the value of two guineas for the following :

FIRST PRIZE POETICAL TRANSLATION OF PART OF
HORACE'S THIRD ODE, BOOK III.

By Master G. W. ORMEROD, not 16, Private Pupil of the
Rev. Thomas Bancroft of Bolton.

' The man resolv'd, whom Justice sways,
And Virtue's rigid precepts guide;
Unmov'd the tyrant's wrath surveys,
And stems, unshaken, faction's tide.

' Though tempests Adria's billows roll,
Though Jove's red bolts, vindictive hurl'd,
Should rend the earth from pole to pole,
He calmly meets the crashing world.

' By acts like these to gain the skies,
Pollux and fam'd Alcides strove;
There Cæsar now midst heroes lies,
And quaffs the nectar'd bowl above.

' Thus Bacchus to th' Elysian meads,
By merit gain'd, his tygers bore;
Quirinus, on his parent's steeds,
Thus fled the joyless Stygian shore.

' Then mildly thus the Thund'rer's queen
Address'd the gods: "Troy, perjur'd Troy!
A haughty stranger's beauteous mien,
An umpire faithless, thee destroy.

' "To me and Pallas chaste 'twas given,
Low in the dust to sink thy tow'rs;
When first thy king mock'd injur'd heav'n,
And dared defraud th' immortal pow'rs."

This appears in Vol. IV., pp. 134, 135.

'The Juvenile Library' is mainly interesting now from De Quincey's connection with it. His first effort for 'The Monthly Preceptor' was a translation of a passage in the oration of Cicero already named. For this he received, as the seventh prize, Dr. Blair's 'Belles Lettres Abridged.' His reward for the version of Horace was Dr. Mavor's 'Abridgment of Plutarch's Lives.' He has left an interesting reference to his own verses. In the same year that they appeared he was on a visit at the seat of Earl Howe, and there met Lord Morton, of whom we are told : 'He took a particular interest in literature : and it was, in fact, through his kindness that, for the first time in my life, I found myself somewhat in the situation of a "lion." The occasion of Lord Morton's flattering notice was a particular copy of verses which had gained for me a public distinction; not, however, I must own, a very brilliant one ; the prize awarded to me being not the first, nor even the second—what on the continent is called the *accessit*—it was simply the third : and that fact, stated nakedly, might have left it doubtful whether I was to be considered in the light of one honoured or of one stigmatised. However, the judges in this case, with more honesty, or more self-distrust, than belongs to most adjudications of the kind, had printed the first three of the successful essays. Consequently, it was left open to each of the less successful candidates to benefit by any difference of taste amongst their several friends ; and my friends in particular, with the single and singular exception of my mother, who always thought her own children inferior to other people's, had generally assigned the palm to myself. Lord Morton protested loudly that the case admitted of no doubt ; that gross injustice had been done me ; and, as the ladies of the family were much influenced by his opinion, I thus came, not only to wear the laurel in their estimation, but also with the advantageous addition of having suffered some injustice. I was not only a victor but a victor in misfortune. At this moment, looking back from a distance

of fifty years upon those trifles, it may well be supposed that I do not attach so much importance to the subject of my fugitive honours as to have any very decided opinion one way or the other upon my own proportion of merit. I do not even recollect the major part of the verses : that which I do recollect inclines me to think that, in the structure of the metre, and in the choice of expressions, I had some advantage over my competitors, though otherwise, perhaps, my verses were less finished ; Lord Morton might, therefore, in a partial sense, have been just as well as kind. But little as they may seem likely, even then, and at the moment of reaping some advantage from my honours, which gave me a consideration with the family I was amongst such as I could not else have had, most unaffectedly I doubted in my own mind whether I was entitled to the praises which I received. My own verses had not at all satisfied myself ; and, though I felt elated by the notice they had gained me, and gratified by the generosity of the Earl in taking my part so warmly, I was so more in a spirit of sympathy with the kindness thus manifested in my behalf, and with the consequent kindness which it procured me from others, than from any incitement or support which it gave to my intellectual pride.'

There is a special interest attaching to Thomas De Quincey's theme. We know that he wrote Latin verses which were recited at the Manchester Grammar School Speech-day, but the thirty-six lines translated from Horace constitute his entire contribution to the domain of English verse. This is noteworthy when we remember how he developed the powers of the non-metrical elements in the language, and raised 'impassioned prose' to its loftiest height. On that mountain peak with snow underfoot and sunshine overhead, De Quincey's Muse of Poetry can safely disdain all the glittering ornaments of verse, and entrance by the unaided force of her tragic and pathetic beauty.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

A MEDITATION ON DIRECTORIES.



COMPILERS of Directories are not, by reason of their occupation, to be considered as learned men. In their private capacities they may be as wise as Solomon and as erudite as Magliabecchi; but these gifts are accidental, not essential to their craft, and count for nothing. It has been suggested that not all librarians are learned; but this is a calumny, for learning of certain kinds being essential to librarians, any librarian who does not possess it, though he may accidentally draw a salary, is not essentially a librarian at all, and the dignity of the craft remains undisturbed. This is a comforting reflection; a less comforting one is that the learning of librarians has often led them astray. They have worked in accordance with theories, which, whether sound in themselves or not, required men trained in the same school as themselves to understand them, and it has recently occurred to me that in the rigid adaptation of methods to aims the compilers of Directories have left librarians a long way in the rear. They have had to fight for existence, while we have been, more or less, masters in our domain, and the result is that while many of the broadest points in catalogue-making are still disputed, an almost uniform type of Directory has grown up, which for readiness and ease of reference can hardly be surpassed.

It is rather amusing to think for a moment what modern Directories might be like if they had grown up under the same kind of traditions as Library-Catalogues, *i.e.*, if the Directory-maker of the past had obtained his appointment on the score of his singular knowledge of topography or local history, and had endeavoured to compile his work

on true antiquarian or topographical principles. Just as the librarian started with Theology, so would he have started with the City, and have proceeded to group the London boroughs in some mystic order, Westminster, Chelsea, Kensington, Paddington, Marylebone, Hampstead, or the like, so that everyone who wished to look up a given street would have had to know in what borough the street lay, and to remember the mystic order of their sequence, or else would have had to consult an index blackened by the fingers of many similar ignoramuses. Or haply our Directory-man might have pinned his faith to a classification by half-mile squares, and worked from east to west or from north to south, according to some painfully devised mathematical theory. Or he might have followed main thoroughfares, Oxford Street, the Edgware Road, and the like, and have registered all the side-streets and squares by their situation relatively to these. On any of these plans an index would have been a necessity, as it is a necessity in every classified catalogue, and its soiled, insanitary pages would have told their tale of time wasted and tempers lost because it had pleased the Lord High Directory-maker to arrange his Directory according to his own learning instead of to suit the need of the people who would have to use it.

The historical evolution of Directory-makers having been different from that of librarians, they have arranged their Street-Directories by none of these logical or scientific methods, but in the simple alphabetical order of the names by which they are known, that is to say, in the order of what librarians call a subject-index instead of that of a class-catalogue. I shall proceed in a few minutes to point out what seems to me a very important feature in these 'subject-index' Directories; but because I may seem to have been treating the makers of Class-Catalogues contemptuously, I wish to note at once that every Street-Directory one sees possesses an adjunct which is seldom

84 A MEDITATION ON DIRECTORIES.

found with a subject-index, that is to say, a chart or map. In the map the divisions by districts, by half-mile squares, by main thoroughfares, are all practically useful. They enable the inquirer to find his way from place to place, which the mere notification 'Here is A-street,' 'Here is B-street,' amid the lists of the houses would never do. Moreover, they show the position of one street or square relatively to another, and how a whole district may be traversed conveniently from end to end by anyone to whom this is an object. If such a chart of headings in their logical or historical order could be added to every subject-index, it seems to me that there would be a real gain. Upholders of Class-Catalogues usually treat anyone who tries to argue with them as if he were necessarily opposed to classification altogether. But this is not the case. The objection is not to classification in itself, but to classification when it is made a stumbling-block to a reader whose sole desire is to find the best book on a single subject as speedily as possible. The blank forms of classification are of the utmost value. They suggest to a reader, better than can be done by simple cross-references (which answer roughly to the 'Here is A-street,' 'Here is B-street' of the Street-Directory), all the cognate subjects which may throw light on that at which he is working, and also the larger subject as part of which it may be treated. They also compel librarians to make sure that they have got all the subject-headings which are necessary, and no two subject-headings which clash. Moreover, they might easily be so laid out and numbered as to form a guide to the subject-arrangement of books on the shelves.

The point I want to make is this—that classification is really valuable, but only on condition that it can be seen. Everyone can see the arrangement of a map or chart, or such a blank form as Mr. Weale lately drew up in so masterly a manner for a logical arrangement of books on architecture. But the moment you begin to fill in your

blank form with details, its visibility begins to diminish. If the subject, or the library, is only a small one, you may still be able to pick out your path with precision, and all is well. Thus by the kindness of Mr. Basil Anderton I have lately received a catalogue of books on the fine arts in the public libraries at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which seems to me a most admirable piece of work. The classified portion of it occupies just a hundred pages, and is so well arranged and mapped out by clearly printed headlines, that there is no difficulty in using it. But apply this same arrangement to a much larger collection, and the contents of each section will be so numerous that the sequence of the sections is no longer visible, and becomes a mere matter of curiosity.

Perhaps some of my readers may have met with one or other of these two cryptic sentences, 'Margarete of Virtu have merci on thin[e] Usk,' and 'Poliam frater Franciscus Columna peramavit.' The one reveals the authorship of 'The Testament of Love,' which for some centuries was falsely and injuriously attributed to Chaucer, the other of the 'Hypnerotomachia Poliphili,' printed by Aldus in 1499. But how do they reveal it? If they had printed these sentences at the beginning of the books there would have been no puzzle. If they had printed them as an ordinary acrostic down the length of a page, with the help of the initial letters there would have been a puzzle, but one which explained itself. Such simple methods did not satisfy these ingenious persons, for the acrostics run through the whole book, and are formed by the initial letters of the successive chapters. Who first discovered the 'Hypnerotomachia' riddle I do not know. The solution of that of 'The Testament of Love' was due in the first instance to Professor Skeat; but by a humorous accident the last seven chapters had got disarranged, and their initials yielded only the mysterious word 'Thsknvi.' Mr. Henry Bradley discovered the true order of the chapters, and thus completed the discovery which Dr.

Skeat had so ingeniously begun. But acrostics when they run through a whole book become riddles indeed, and this is the fate of class-catalogues when their successive divisions are separated by such chapters of details that they cease altogether to attract the eye.

I have given this paper its rather fantastic title on purpose to justify the digressions which naturally arise when one begins to meditate; and I will, therefore, at the risk of being wearisome, take a specific instance of what I may call these chapter-acrostics in a catalogue. Every time that I use that splendid work, 'The Index to the Early Printed Books in the British Museum,' by my friend Mr. Proctor, I find myself wishing that he had brought into a single section at the beginning of his book all those wonderful chronological lists of the sequence of towns in each country in the order in which printing was introduced into them, and of the sequence of printers in each town in the order in which they began work, and had then arranged the towns alphabetically instead of chronologically under the countries, and the printers alphabetically instead of chronologically under the towns. There may be ten men in England who carry the history of printing sufficiently clearly in their heads to be able to find a given printer in his chronological order without previous fumbling, *e.g.*, who when they want to find the 'Practica Musices' of Gaforus, printed by Guillaume le Signerre at Milan in 1496, will know at once that they have to look up the 26th press of the 7th town into which printing was introduced in Italy. For myself I possess the irritating smattering of knowledge which makes me lose more time in trying to find it directly than if I patiently took down the other volume, looked up Le Signerre in the index of printers, and thus became possessed of his proper number. When I am in quest of a particular entry my affection for Mr. Proctor is tried by this waste of time; but when I am thinking of the history of typography I regret quite as much that we have not got all those

chronological lists of towns and printers brought together as a glorified chart of the progress of printing, at the beginning of his book. His work is a thousand times more than the mere 'Index' which he has modestly named it. It is a history of printing worked out in all its details, and this, its capital feature, would have been not obscured, but emphasized, if the historical outlines had been printed uninterruptedly, and the body of the work arranged solely with a view to easy reference. But I hope that Mr. Proctor will some day reprint the historical lists by themselves as a handy octavo, and add, as his present researches should enable him to do, to the dates at which the printers began work those at which they left off. If the octavo is small enough we can carry it about in our pocket till we have learnt it by heart, and then we shall be sufficiently educated to find any given entry in the 'Index' without a preliminary reference to the 'register.'

I work back to my main subject by observing that the excellent Panzer in his '*Annales Typographici*' seems to me to have been too sedulously and monotonously alphabetical. It is certainly simplicity itself to arrange the names of all the printing-towns of Europe in a single alphabet, and to adhere to this sequence. But although I have clamoured for more consideration for the needs of students as imperfectly educated as myself, I resent being considered to know absolutely nothing except my alphabet, and being thus cut off from some advantages in which an elementary knowledge of geography would enable me to share. I know that Bologna, Ferrara, Florence, Milan, Rome, Venice, and Verona are all in Italy; and if Panzer had put all his Italian towns in one volume and lettered it 'Italia,' keeping the alphabetical arrangement of the towns of each country, reference would have been facilitated, and the student of printing in any one country would have had all his information brought together in a compact form. Now in this matter our Directory-makers have shown their usual sound sense. To begin with, they have not

attempted a 'Directory of All England' in an endless number of volumes. They have split up their subject into counties, or groups of counties, and towns, each county being kept quite distinct, and the towns of each county following each other in their alphabetical order. More than this, they have reckoned on the fact that anyone who uses a directory will be quite clear in his mind as to whether he wants to find a private address or a business address, and whether the person whose address he seeks is engaged in commerce, or is a clergyman, or a barrister, or a solicitor, or an official under Government. Hence those divisions Court, Commercial, Clerical, Legal, Official, etc., with which we are all familiar, and which everyone uses without difficulty or hesitation. The use of them is obvious. If you wish to find the address of Mr. John Smith, if all the John Smiths were in a single alphabet you might have to work through a couple of hundred names before you found your man. By these rough and perfectly intelligible divisions the John Smiths of the class you want are separated from the rest, and your labour is lightened. Of course librarians also have produced special catalogues, but hitherto special catalogues have been mainly regarded as supplementary to a General Catalogue, or as parts of a great 'logical' class-arrangement. But as books increase, will it be possible to maintain General Catalogues in the largest libraries? Will it not be necessary to dividé up both Author-Catalogues and Subject-Catalogues into clearly defined sections, not supplementary, but themselves comprising the General Catalogue of the library.

Two principles of division at once suggest themselves for Author-Catalogues, division by date and division by languages. The former, as authors have never seen the necessity of dying out as a body at the end of a century, would become troublesome if carried out at all minutely. But if any library finds its catalogue growing unwieldy it is surely within its rights in saying 'We will increase our old catalogue only by entering in it purchases of old books,

and we will start a new catalogue for all books published after 1900.' Against division by language the only objection arises from the existence of translations; but in libraries which use cross-references, translations are already entered twice over, once fully under the author, once briefly under the translator, and the only change would be that these two entries would now appear in two different catalogues instead of in different parts of the same. In a division by language the advantage would be that the number of separate catalogues could be much greater than in any division by time. We do not all know in what century a given author was born or wrote; but we can all be absolutely sure as to whether we wish to read a book in English, or in French, or in German. And the one essential in subdividing catalogues is that the principle of subdivision shall be one which even a very ignorant person can understand and apply.

If this last condition is important in any subdivision of Author-Catalogues, it is still more essential in any subdivision of Subject-Catalogues. There must be no fine lines, inviting subtle distinctions. It would be dangerous, for instance, to attempt to keep Theology and Philosophy in different volumes. History, Geography, Ethnography, Sociology, would probably all have to go in a single group. But we have pretty definite ideas of what we mean by Law and by Medicine, by Poetry and Art, by Mathematics and Natural Sciences, and it should not be difficult to get some ten or twelve subject-groups of recognized individuality. In each of these subject-groups the arrangement of headings might remain strictly alphabetical without exciting the sense of incongruity which the succession of headings in a general subject-index can hardly fail to arouse, and each section would offer to the special student in a compact form the guidance which he needs. 'Divide et Impera' used to be the old Roman motto. The time will surely come when, if we would retain the mastery over the enormous masses of books which are being poured

90 A MEDITATION ON DIRECTORIES.

out year after year, we must break them up into sections which can be easily handled. That plain man of business, the Directory-maker, shows us how myriads of names and of people and streets and occupations can all be dealt with and made easy of reference by the two great principles of (1) using the alphabet as the ultimate method of arrangement, and (2) lightening the strain on the alphabet by accepting any other means of preliminary classification which can be readily understood. Let us all study our Directories!

ALFRED W. POLLARD.

REVIEWS.

BOOK-PRICES CURRENT : a record of the prices at which books have been sold at auction from October, 1899, to July, 1900, being the season 1899-1900. (ELLIOT STOCK.)

THE fourteenth volume of Mr. Slater's 'Book-Prices Current' (Elliot Stock) contains the record of only one sale of the first importance, and in his preface, in which as usual he raises several interesting points, the Editor has to announce a fall of some 20,000 guineas in the total realized, and of 13s. 3d. in the average price per lot, the figures being £87,929 for 38,151 lots (average £2 6s. 2d.) as against £109,141 for 36,728 lots (average £2 19s. 5d.) in the previous season. It should perhaps be remembered that the 1898-99 sales themselves constituted a record, both as regards total and average, and that the present figures are higher than those for any year previous to 1896, when a reduction in the number of lots sold was attended by a large increase in price.¹

Whether the war in South Africa or mere accident kept important collections out of the market, it appears to be this fact rather than any general fall in prices which accounts for the diminished totals. In the one really notable sale of the year, that of the Inglis books, 849 lots realized £7,519, or the very good average of nearly £9 apiece, though Mr. Inglis certainly did not tempt amateurs to give high prices either by the bindings into which he

¹ There appears to be a misprint in Mr. Slater's statement of the average for 1896. He gives the lots as 37,358, the total as £100,259, and the average as £1 13s. 10d. According to our reckoning it should be £2 13s. 8d.

put his books or the strange insertions which he made in them. One of these was almost criminal, for in a copy of the 'Defensorium Curatorum' by an unknown French printer, the device of Colard Mansion was neatly pasted at the end of the book, no doubt to the enhancement of its price. Mr. Slater, sad to say, has fallen into the trap bodily, for he not only catalogues the book as 'with Colard Mansion's device on last leaf,' but quotes also without comment the auctioneer's note 'the first and extremely rare edition of this work, interesting from its connection with Colard Mansion and Caxton.' It is, perhaps, the existence of such pitfalls that causes Mr. Slater to withhold from the useful Index of Subjects which of late years he has prefixed to his register any indication of the names of the books which have fetched high prices because either of their printer or their bindings. To many users of 'Book-Prices Current' its value, great as it already is, would be doubled by lists of books printed in the fifteenth century, English books printed before 1640, and books in fine bindings, which have come under the hammer. And as it is precisely these books which fetch the highest sums, it seems as reasonable to give some guide to where they may be found, as in the case of books on angling or 'amours.'

Another of the features of the sales of the year to which Mr. Slater calls attention in his preface is the great decline in the fancy values of various books by Kipling and the Davos Platz brochures of Stevenson and his stepson. 'School-boy Lyrics,' it appears, has fallen from £135 to £3 5s., and the 'United Service Chronicle' from £101 to £5 7s. 6d. As no fewer than six copies of the former work and eight of the latter have come into the market, the 'slump' is hardly surprising, and American collectors have had a sharp warning not to give fancy sums on the supposition that the only copy of a book of which they can hear is necessarily unique. If they could keep their purchase quiet they might rest in serene possession of their expensive treasure; but a price of over £100 naturally receives a

large advertisement in the newspapers, and then owners of other copies begin to look them up and hasten to Sotheby's. The fall in the Stevenson trifles has not been so marked as in those of Mr. Kipling, and the Kelmscott Press books have kept up very well, though there are now signs that the rush of sellers may cause a temporary depression, quite a number of copies of some of the books having been sold at auction last year. But we agree with Mr. Slater in thinking that the future of the Kelmscott books is assured, and that no falling off in their prices can be more than temporary.

One other remark in Mr. Slater's preface invites a commentary. Is he really right in speaking of 'those rare and expensive books which are gradually, but surely, being absorbed by the great Public Libraries, and will soon become altogether unprocurable?' In the first place, it is unusual for even a great library to be able to bid more than a few hundred pounds for a book; and we should be interested to know if any public library during the last twenty years has acquired a copy of the 'Gutenberg' Bible, or of the Mainz Psalter, or even a really fine example of one of Caxton's most valued books, the 'Canterbury Tales,' for instance; or, again, a fine First Folio Shakespeare. Our belief is that these treasures of the first quality go nowadays, not to Public Libraries, but almost invariably to rich private collectors. In the second place, against the purchases by the great libraries of England, France, Germany, and America, where books are likely to stay to the end of time, must be set not only the constant discovery of new copies in private hands, but also the dispersal, which is still going on, of old monastic libraries on the Continent. The incunabula still to be picked up in Italy seem inexhaustible, and the resources of Spain have hardly yet been touched. Our own belief is therefore that at present libraries are still yielding up more than they absorb, and that the number of fine books in private ownership in England, France and America, is

now greater than at any previous time, despite the purchases which libraries have made during the last generation.

CABOT BIBLIOGRAPHY, with an introductory essay on the career of the Cabots, based upon an independent examination of the sources of information. By George Parker Winship. (HENRY STEVENS, SON AND STILES.)

THE fourth centenary of the voyage of John Cabot to North America, celebrated three and a half years ago, naturally produced a large amount of Cabot literature; and about the same time at least two new documents of some importance came to light, the record of the payment of John Cabot's pension in 1497 and 1498, discovered by Mr. E. J. L. Scott in the muniment room at Westminster Abbey, and the '*Declaratio chartæ novæ navigatoriæ domini almirantis*,' which turned up in April, 1895, at a sale in Silesia. There was thus room for a new catalogue of Cabot books, and in producing this annotated bibliography Mr. Winship has had a further incentive in the desire to get Cabot controversies into a calmer and more judicial atmosphere than they have lately breathed. In a curious way the Cabots' exploits have become mixed up with questions both of law and diplomacy; and though the one only concerns dwellers in New York, and the other, unless it revives again in connection with the 'French shore' of Newfoundland, is now dead, geographical experts have certainly been induced by them to take sides with more than ordinary heat.

The legal point is too interesting not to be mentioned. It seems that in 1889 one of the Justices of the Superior Court of the City of New York ordered the Manhattan Elevated Railroad Company to pay damages for the depreciation of property along its lines, overruling the argument that by the Roman Law, which the Dutch brought with them to Manhattan Island, the rights of the Government, which the Company had acquired, were absolute, and

subject to no claims for compensation by adjoining owners. The judge's decision was based on his belief that long before the arrival of the Dutch the Cabots had visited the whole coast from Florida to Labrador, and by so doing had planted the English civil law in a position from which the subsequent introduction of Roman Law by the Dutch could not oust it—a striking example of a legal decision based on purely historical evidence, and that, according to the modern doctrine of 'effective possession,' by no means of a convincing order.

The diplomatic animus dates much farther back than the legal, having been imported in 1755, when the British members of the Commission 'on the respective possessions and rights of the two Crowns in America' (Messrs. Shirley and Mildmay) laid before their French colleagues a statement as to the discovery in 1497 by John Cabot on behalf of Henry VII., which the Frenchmen found highly inconvenient. Based mainly upon Hakluyt, the English case is now generally recognized as substantially accurate; but from the confused statements of earlier writers, the French Commissioners almost succeeded in reducing the whole discovery to a mere legend, and not only gained an immediate triumph, but dominated the encyclopædias and works of reference for the best part of a century. In 1831 a Richard Biddle, a Pennsylvania lawyer who had lived for some years in England, issued anonymously at Philadelphia 'A Memoir of Sebastian Cabot, with a review of the history of Maritime discovery, illustrated by documents from the rolls, now first published,' which attracted much attention, and effectually reopened the whole case. This volume, indeed, as Mr. Winship puts it in a pamphlet issued a little before his 'Bibliography,' 'corrected many errors in the earlier works; but Mr. Biddle, having once started out to correct, kept at it until he had revised nearly everything in his predecessors, whether right or wrong,' so that the confusion first introduced by the French Commissioners became worse confounded. The Cabots were now as much

exalted as they had formerly been depreciated, and in 1869 Mr. J. F. Nicholls, the city librarian of Bristol, produced 'The remarkable life, adventures and discoveries of Sebastian Cabot, of Bristol, the founder of Great Britain's maritime power, discoverer of America and its first colonizer,' a highly imaginative biography which seems to have done Sebastian Cabot even worse service than William Godwin rendered to Chaucer. The inevitable reaction set in with a clever review by Henry Stevens the elder (or, as he loved to call himself from his home in Vermont, the Green Mountain Boy, father of the publisher of the present book), who headed his notice with the very effective title, 'Sebastian Cabot—John Cabot = O.' In 1882 the cudgels were taken up by M. Henry Harrisse in his 'Jean et Sébastien Cabot.' M. Harrisse returned to the subject in 1892 in his 'The Discovery of North America,' and again in 1896 in 'John Cabot the discoverer of North America and Sebastian his son, a chapter of the maritime history of England under the Tudors, 1496—1557,' a work which Mr. Winship eulogizes as having 'transformed one of the most difficult problems of colonial history into one of the most easily understood.' Unfortunately M. Harrisse has not been content with his own masterpiece, but in a series of subsequent papers and reviews has pursued the memory of Sebastian Cabot almost with ferocity; and it is against these later attacks that Mr. Winship's 'independent examination of the sources of information' is directed.

Mr. Winship has arranged his bibliography in two alphabetical lists, the first comprising all the books and documents which can be supposed to have any value as original authorities, the second giving 'books and other writings printed between 1600 and 1900, which refer to John and Sebastian Cabot, or which are of use in studying the controversies associated with their names.' To these lists he has prefixed an introduction in two parts, the first giving a simple and straightforward account of the careers of the Cabots, as they present themselves to him; the

second taking in order some fifteen different controversial points, and summarizing the evidence as to each. The margins to each part of the introduction are dotted with references to books in the bibliography, to which they serve as a rough subject-index. The help thus given is certainly needed, as the alphabetical arrangement of the bibliography naturally separates the books and documents on the same topic, and some of the entries are difficult to find, the reports of the Anglo-French Commission of 1755-57 appearing under 'Mémoires,' and the payments of John Cabot's pension under 'Kemys' and 'Meryk,' the Collectors of the Customs at the Port of Bristol, by whom the payments were made. Whether a chronological arrangement of the original documents would have been simpler is a point on which it is not easy to dogmatize, a possible source of confusion existing between the dates of the documents themselves and that of their publication, which might easily outweigh the obvious advantages of the chronological method. A formal subject-index would undoubtedly have been an advantage; but with the aid of the marginal references to the introduction any book can be found with a little trouble, and when found the carefulness of the entry and the fullness of its notes are an ample reward. Our only criticism, indeed, is as to a practice in which Mr. Winship has many fellow-sinners, that is, the absurd transliteration of a majuscule V in the middle of a word by a minuscule of the same form instead of by u. The practice has become so common that it would be unjust to accuse any individual adopter of it of ignorance and pedantry; but it cannot too often be pointed out that such a form as 'traffiqves' cannot be found in any sixteenth-century book which was ever printed, and that it is ridiculous by way of cultivating the fine flower of accuracy to adopt a spelling at which the printer, whose title-page is being copied, would have laughed. All that is gained is the information that a word, in which the minuscule v occurs in the middle, must have been printed

in majuscules, and there is no advantage in indicating this for words thus spelt, while leaving the reader uncertain as to the type employed in all the rest.

Returning now to Mr. Winship's survey of Cabot controversies, it may be worth while briefly to summarize some of his conclusions. As regards John Cabot, he accepts as demonstrated that, like Columbus, he was born at Genoa; regards the idea of a Danish Mission previous to his voyage as 'neither impossible nor unlikely,' but without historical evidence; views the date of 1494, at first given by Hakluyt for the successful voyage, as simply a misprint; adopts Cape Breton as the place of his landing; and maintains that 'there is no reason, in probability or in the sources of information, why Cabot and his companions need have spent more than a few hours on American soil.' Lastly, he has no doubt that a new voyage, from which John Cabot never returned, was undertaken in 1498, there being no reason why the pension paid him in that year should have been received in person.

As to Sebastian Cabot, the evidence as to whether he was born in Venice or in Bristol is conflicting, but the former place is the more probable. It is unlikely that he took any part in the voyages of 1497 and 1498; but as his name is associated with the presentation to Henry VII. of some natives of America in 1502-3, it is perhaps probable that he was connected with the expedition fitted out by two Bristol merchants. In 1508-9 an Arctic voyage apparently sailed under his command; the subject of a voyage with Sir Thomas Pert or Spert in 1517 is too perplexed for any clear pronouncement; a projected English expedition in 1521 almost certainly did not sail. After this date Cabot transferred his services to Spain, and it was on behalf of the Spanish merchants and their king that he made the unhappy expedition to La Plata in 1526, which throws such an unfavourable light on his capacity for command. Nevertheless he remained in favour in

Spain, and when in 1548 he returned to England and entered the service of Edward VI., the Spanish ambassador took some trouble to win him back to Spain. In 1553 he became Governor of the Merchants Adventurers, and drew up the instructions for the voyage of Willoughby and Chancellor, and again in 1556 organized the search expedition under Stephen Burrough. The next year he died, not quite so much either of a saint or a hero as Mr. Nicholls depicted him, but certainly not the 'unmitigated charlatan' of M. HARRISSE's latest pronouncement.

We do not claim to be experts in Cabot controversies, but it is impossible to mistake the signs of strenuous care and judicial impartiality which mark every section of the book we have thus imperfectly summarized. Mr. Winship might easily have put the results of the independent examination of the evidence as to the two Cabots into a bulky memoir; he has preferred to redress the balance by the more modest method of an annotated bibliography. It is a fine piece of work, and one which shows the uses to which bibliography may be put when in the hands of a scholar.

NOTES ON BOOKS AND WORK.



WHEN the workers in a field are so few as in that of the early history of printing losses are keenly felt, and the death on December 11th of Mlle. Pellechet has come as a hard blow to her fellow-workers. It may be hoped that some little memoir of her may be issued on which we may draw in a future number for more facts than are at present at our command, but in so quiet a life the facts are not likely to be many. We believe that it was from sympathy with a friend's work that Mlle. Pellechet was first attracted to the study of liturgies, and from liturgies to early printed books in general. Once engaged in these studies, in which she was the first woman to attain, or to seek, distinction, she carried them on with enthusiasm, and won her spurs in bibliography by cataloguing the incunabula in three important French libraries, those of Dijon, Lyons, and Versailles. As a rule, and it is not to their discredit, French antiquaries select some local subject for inquiry, and carry on their researches within the borders of their own province. Mlle. Pellechet conceived a more ambitious plan, and when she had gained her experience over her three catalogues of separate collections, started on no less a work than a general catalogue of all the incunabula in the numerous public libraries in France in which they are to be found. Armed with authority from the Minister of Public Instruction, she went from library to library, making full use, of course, of the catalogues similar to those she had compiled herself, which have been printed during the last few years at the public expense, but also making personal examination of many thousands of books. Her holidays were spent in the same way, in working at the French books in

foreign libraries, notably those of Vienna and Florence. She had promised to come next spring to the British Museum, and it is sad now to remember that this visit might have taken place two years ago but for the wretched newspaper warfare which alternately inspires English and French people with the quite unfounded dread that they may be insulted in the streets of Paris or of London. An even greater cause for regret is that only the first volume of her 'Catalogue général' was published during her life. This appeared in 1897, and with her energy and enthusiasm the whole work might have been finished ere now, had she not deliberately stayed her hand in order to give it a fresh perfection. Among other works for which the French Government (so unlike our own) gave commissions in view of the Exhibition of 1900 was an exhaustive history of printing in France during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, to be written by M. Claudin and profusely illustrated. Among the illustrations are numerous facsimiles of early French types, and in order to be able to give references to these facsimiles Mlle. Pellechet postponed the printing of the remaining volumes of her catalogue. One friend at least remonstrated with every argument in his power, the uncertainty of life among the rest; but *le meilleur l'ennemi du bien* has claimed one more triumph, and the completion of her great work will come from other, though friendly and sympathetic, hands.

While so busy herself Mlle. Pellechet found abundant leisure to be helpful to others. A post-card to her would bring not only a collation of an inaccessible volume, but a photograph as well; and a piece of work which she admired would be rewarded with a telegram of congratulation. She was a delightful and most humorous correspondent, and the interest she took in life and work should have saved her from being cut off when just sixty. But she had been unwell for some months before her death, and after seeming to rally from a sharp attack of influenza, her strength suddenly gave way.

The first volume of the work by M. Claudin, 'L'Histoire de l'Imprimerie en France au XV^e et au XVI^e siècle,' for which Mlle. Pellechet waited, was shown at the Paris Exhibition, and a few copies are now being sent out, as gifts, to some of the greater public libraries. It will not be formally published until the second volume, now in the printer's hands, is also ready; these two volumes completing the history of printing and publishing in Paris in the fifteenth century. A third volume will give the history of Lyonnese printing; a fourth, that of the provincial presses, of which M. Claudin has long been a special student; while the fifth and last will tell the story of the French press during the sixteenth century, apparently on a much less elaborate scale, unless the five volumes grow to six or more. Three thousand illustrations, chiefly facsimiles of the rarer books and alphabets of types, have been made for the work; and each volume will cost 150 francs, though subscribers for the whole set will obtain a reduction of one-third on each of the last three, thus reducing the price of the set to 600 francs. We hope in our next number to be able to give some account of M. Claudin's first volume; meanwhile all students of early printing will wish him success in completing his great work, and will applaud the liberality of the French Government in bringing it out on so magnificent a scale.

Subscribers to the 'British Museum Catalogue of Printed Books' received in November the index to the heading England, and with it the following memorandum, signed by Mr. G. K. Fortescue:

'The printing of the Catalogue of the Printed Books in the Library of the British Museum has been the work of twenty years. The Trustees of the British Museum authorized the undertaking on the advice of the late Principal Librarian, Sir Edward Augustus Bond, K.C.B. The printing was begun in 1881 and has been brought to a conclusion before the close of the year 1900. The com-

pilation of the Catalogue has been the work of the greater part of the staff of the Department. The general editing for press was intrusted to Mr. Richard Garnett, C.B., until his appointment to the Keepership of Printed Books in 1890, when he was succeeded as editor by Mr. A. W. K. Miller, Assistant-Keeper of the Department.

'The old manuscript Catalogue, which had been in use in the Reading Room for many years, consisted of more than two thousand large folio volumes, each part averaging three hundred columns. Each volume of the manuscript Catalogue was subjected to a careful revision before being sent to press. In the course of this revision many improvements in the methods of arrangement were carried out, and errors, unavoidable in a compilation which was the work of many minds through a long succession of years, were carefully corrected.

'A printed Supplement to the Catalogue is now being issued, which will contain the titles of all books added to the Library during the years 1882-1899 (inclusive) but not incorporated in the General Catalogue during the process of printing.'

Thus unobtrusively comes to a successful end the huge piece of work, for which when it was first set on foot a fate was predicted similar to that which befell its predecessor of forty years earlier, which never got beyond letter A. The Department of Printed Books at the British Museum is not likely for many years to have so fine an opportunity of giving itself a Dinner as that which it has just foregone.

From Cambridge comes the welcome news that the first volume of Mr. Sayle's catalogue of the books in the University Library printed before 1641 will be out before the end of January. With its publication the prospects of a General Catalogue of English Books of this period grow distinctly brighter, as it is only by the publication of the catalogue of individual libraries that such a general catalogue can become possible, unless indeed some en-

thusiast can be found who will do for each library work which ought properly to be done by its own staff. The catalogue of the English books in the John Rylands Library is already in our hands, and if only Mr. Nicholson can find time to send the Bodleian titles to the press, the work of the General Catalogue will begin to assume manageable proportions. One thing, however, is certain—a General Catalogue of English Books up to 1640 is certain, sooner or later, to be printed once; it is almost equally certain that it will not be printed twice, or reprinted only after a very long interval. Any hasty endeavour to push forward the work prematurely is thus most strongly to be deprecated. It really matters very little whether it is done now, or ten years hence; it matters greatly that, whenever it is at last taken in hand, it should be done thoroughly well.

It is evident from the John Rylands and Cambridge catalogues that the example of the British Museum in stopping short at 1640 will almost inevitably be followed in any general catalogue. For many reasons this is matter for regret. The Museum decision was dictated by the enormous size of the Thomason collection of Civil War Tracts, which threatened, if included in a single alphabetical catalogue, altogether to obscure the earlier works which are individually more interesting. A separate catalogue of the Thomason collection is one of the luxuries which the British Museum hopes to attain whenever more urgent work permits, and this will help to carry on a 1640 catalogue another twenty years. But with Mr. Arber soon setting out on a reprint of the Term Catalogues from 1668 to 1709, it is obvious that the years from 1660 to 1668 will have to be bridged over somehow. The interesting question will then arise whether it will be better to have a single English catalogue to 1700, covering the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, or whether it will be equally convenient to have one catalogue ending in 1640,

and another supplementing it for the years 1641 to 1700. Meanwhile three things are urgently needed: (1) a printed catalogue of the English books at the Bodleian; (2) much more information than we at present possess as to the contents of college and cathedral libraries; and (3) plenty of subscriptions to enable Mr. Arber to bring out his reprint of the Term Catalogues as speedily as may be.

The Oxford Historical Society, whose forty published volumes include works like Hearne's 'Collections,' the 'Life and Times of Anthony Wood,' and other books of the greatest literary and antiquarian interest, in order to increase its numbers is now offering to allow new members to purchase complete sets at half the issue price, *i.e.*, for seventeen half-guineas instead of seventeen guineas. Single volumes (with two exceptions) may be purchased at the same rate. The offer is certainly a liberal one, and the present members must have had some misgivings as to thus depreciating the value of their own sets. It is to be hoped that it will result in extending the very meagre list of public libraries which are at present subscribers. Birmingham, Brighton, Cambridge, the Guildhall Library, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Oxford, and Reading do their duty; but the United States, in Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New York and Worcester, contribute almost as much, and it might have been thought that there were more English libraries with sufficient funds and public spirit to support so good a society. Certainly they now have an opportunity of doing so in a very economical way. Let us hope that a few months hence the Guildhall will not be the only London Public Library on the list of subscribers.

Mr. Plomer writes, under date December 5th, of a curious discovery he has made among the wills of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury at Somerset House. The will in question is that of John Rue of Frankfort, proved on the 15th May, 1492. The testator dates it

from St. Paul's Churchyard, and leaves a bequest to the church of St. Faith's, so that he was probably a bookseller. He names as his executors the secretary to the German merchants of the Hanseatic League, and another person for whose name a blank space is left, followed by the description, '*impressorem librorum de Westmonasterio.*' The witnesses to the will are Gregory, curate of St. Faith's, John Petytt, and Master Peter Martin. Mr. Plomer thinks that the reason of the omission of the second executor's name is to be found in the fact that Caxton's death had taken place not long before the making of the will, and perhaps John Rue did not know or could not remember the name of his successor. Mr. Plomer does not mention the date of the making of the will as opposed to the probate, but it is certainly possible that Caxton's death occurred after he had given his consent to act as executor, and that the description was allowed to stand in the hope that Jan Wynkyn would take his place; but there was no wealth of printers at Westminster in 1492, and if Wynkyn refused, the description would have been wasted. Mr. Plomer suggests that John Petytt may have been Jean Petit, the Paris publisher; and this is of course possible, though, as Petyt was an English name at this time, it is not safe to assume it. Altogether, the will offers some rather interesting riddles.

The following note by Miss Salome Cutler Fairchild is in place of the fuller 'American Notes' which she is usually kind enough to send:

'The plans for co-operative cataloguing described in the September number of "American Notes" have matured rapidly and the Publishing Board of the American Library Association announces to the libraries an arrangement with the Library of Congress which provides for the printing and distribution of catalogue cards for American copyright books, to begin January, 1901, if it meets with the support that is expected. The proposed plan allows small libraries

to subscribe for a limited number of books at a cost much less than that of cataloguing by hand, a feature indispensable to the general adoption of the scheme. The Publishing Board may decide to wait till the Library of Congress is able to co-operate in printing cards for other than American copyright books before attempting to furnish them to the libraries; it may undertake the work as a separate venture. A committee has the matter under consideration.

'It is a pleasure to me to send, through the courtesy of the Publishing Board, this latest news from the American library world, even before it has appeared in our own library periodicals. Full details of the perfected plan will be printed in due time; it seems clear that a thoroughly good working plan, capable of expansion and fitted for universal adoption, is in process of evolution, and that it marks an important advance in library development.'

All developments of Co-operative Cataloguing will be watched with interest, and in the next number of 'The Library' it is hoped to give an account of the Central Catalogue of the Prussian University Libraries, now in progress. Meanwhile, as our American Notes this quarter are unusually brief, the space which had been kept open for them is therefore filled by an account of another of Mr. H. R. Plomer's interesting discoveries, a list of books once in the possession of Stephen Vallenger.

ALFRED W. POLLARD.

STEPHEN VALLENGER.

IN the year 1581 Edmund Campian, a Jesuit priest, and other Roman Catholics, were arrested on a charge of advocating the deposition of the Queen, or her removal from the throne in an even more summary manner.

Campian and his friends, Ralph Sherwin and Alexander Bryan, were tried before the Court of Star Chamber, found guilty of high treason, and condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered; they were accordingly dragged through the streets to Tyburn, and there executed.

One of the principal actors in this tragedy was a well-known and popular writer, Anthony Munday, who, a couple of years before these events, had delighted many readers with a new edition of 'The Mirror for Magistrates,' under the title of 'The Mirror of Mutabilitie,' and had followed this up with several original writings.

Munday had now persuaded himself that it was a virtue to play the spy upon the Roman Catholics, and after his miserable tissue of evidence had helped to send Campian and his friends to the gallows, he made no secret of it, but gave the whole story to the world the year following their execution.

The severity of the sentence roused great indignation not only among Roman Catholics, but among many moderate Protestants, and it found expression in certain pamphlets, one printed in French, and the other in English, but both at some secret press abroad, in which attention was called to the weakness of the evidence brought forward at the trial, and Munday was held up to well-merited contempt, against which he could only make a lame defence.

But the immediate effect of the condemnation and execution of Campian was to kindle once more the fires of hatred against the Roman Catholics. It took the form of senseless persecution, not only of those professing that faith, but of everyone who fell under suspicion of sympathizing with its adherents. Thus, the two pamphlets just mentioned were declared to be libels. Rigorous search was made for the authors and printers of them, and everyone found with a copy in his possession was seized and thrown into prison. The spies of the Government were everywhere. No man could trust his neighbour.

Amongst the victims of this persecution was the subject of this paper, Stephen Vallenger. Who or what he was is alike unknown, and in all probability the history of his imprisonment in the Fleet would never have come down to us but for a zealous scribe of the sixteenth century, who set himself to record the doings of the Court of Star Chamber during Elizabeth's reign, and whose papers are resting among the Ayscough Manuscripts in the British Museum (Ayscough MSS., 326, No. 7).

The story that he tells is brief and tragic enough. Some one had informed against Vallenger for possessing a copy of the English pamphlet written in defence of Campian. He was accordingly arrested at his lodgings in Southwark, and brought before the Star Chamber on a charge of being the author of these 'libells.' The prosecution presumably brought forward the strongest evidence it could get, and it amounted to this: that a manuscript copy of the pamphlet was found in Vallenger's lodging, which he owned was in his handwriting; that although he denied the authorship, he refused to say from whom he had received the book; and, further, that he was 'a masterles man, and a maker of Rymes and such vayne things.'

Not a word was said as to his having any connection with Campian, or sympathy with his beliefs, and no evidence was produced to prove that he was in league with any conspirators, or knew by whom the pamphlet had been

written. The mere fact of the copy having been found in his possession was enough for the court, which declared that, as he refused to say who was the author of the libel, he must have written it himself. Accordingly he was condemned to be confined during the Queen's pleasure; to pay a fine of £200, which in money of the present day would represent nearly ten times that sum; and, further, to stand for a public example in the pillory at Westminster one day, and in that at Cheapside another, and to lose both his ears.

This barbarous sentence was duly executed; and as Vallenger either could not or would not pay the fine imposed upon him, he was lodged in the Fleet prison as a crown debtor. Here he lingered for ten years, his death taking place within the prison walls in 1592, and among the records of the Exchequer, preserved at the Record Office in Fetter Lane, is an inventory of the goods and chattels which he left behind him. This inventory is remarkable from the large number of books that it contains, showing that the prisoner was a scholar and a student; and the interest which always attaches to such early lists of books is heightened in the present instance by the melancholy fate of their owner.

Stephen Vallenger's library consisted of upwards of one hundred books, in Latin, Greek, English, French, Spanish and Italian, the largest and most important divisions being those in Latin and English. In many cases the size, place of publication, and date of printing are given in the inventory, and to all the books a price is affixed; but whether this is a mere valuation, or the actual price for which the copies were sold, there is no evidence to show.

In the Latin division theological works form the largest class, including the Scriptures and commentaries upon them, and books by Bonaventura, Chrysostom, Thomas Aquinas, Thomas à Kempis, and Erasmus.

The classics include the works of Cicero, in three volumes, printed by Froben of Basle in 1533; two edi-

tions of the 'De Officiis,' one with annotations by Erasmus; the 'De Amicitia' in 'an old print'; the works of Virgil and Ovid, and the comedies of Terence. Besides these may be mentioned the 'Flores omnium doctorum et philosophorum' of Thomas Palmer or Thomas Hibernicus; the 'Zodiacus Vitæ' of Marcellus Palingenius, a work popular throughout Europe, nine editions being printed on the Continent, and several English translations having been issued before 1580; the 'Scholastica historia' of Petrus Comestor; and, lastly, the 'De Antiquitate Cantabrigiensis Academiæ' of John Caius, printed by Day in 1570. The presence of this last work in Vallenger's library seems to indicate that he had some special interest in Cambridge; but his name does not appear in the 'Athenæ Cantabrigienses,' and he may only have added it to his shelves on account of its being a good piece of Latin writing.

The English books in this inventory are especially interesting, as they include some of the best work of the sixteenth century. The first entry on the list is 'The Garden of Pleasure,' written by J. Sandford, of which there were editions in 1573 and 1576. The full title of this book, which conveys at once its character, was 'The Garden of Pleasure; Contayninge most pleasante Tales, worthy deeds and witty sayings of Noble Princes and learned Philosophers moralized . . . Done out of Italian into English.' Next we have the 'Works' of Thomas Lupset, who was known as 'the flower of all learned men of his time.' Barclay's 'Ship of Fools,' and the equally famous and popular 'Mirror for Magistrates,' naturally found a place on Vallenger's shelves, as did also the metrical history of England, written by the poet William Warner and entitled 'Albions England.' Side by side with these were the 'Golden Boke of Marcus Aurelius, Emperor of Rome,' under which lofty pseudonym the Spanish writer, Anthony de Guevara, disguised himself, and the same author's 'Familiar Epistles.' Guevara was one of the most

delightful writers of the sixteenth century. No less than seven editions of this 'Golden Boke' were published in England, before its popularity was eclipsed by other writers, although no doubt much of its success was due to the fine translations made of it by Lord Berners and Sir Thomas North. The Italian poet Petrarch was represented by Twyn's translation entitled 'Physicke against Fortune,' a book that must often have soothed its unfortunate owner when he felt inclined, as Jaques puts it, to 'rail at Lady Fortune in good terms.' Another of his volumes that Vallenger doubtless often turned to for solace was St. Cyprian's 'Sermon of Mortallity with the rules of a Christian life by Picus Mirandula, translated by Sir Thomas Elyot.' Let us hope that he found some help in them, for few poor makers of 'Rymes and suche vayne things' can have had a harder lot.

H. R. PLOMER.

